

(a) whether Government proposes to provide financial assistance for establishing more Agriculture Research Centres (ARCs) in various States including Rajasthan and Haryana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise;

(c) whether Government has so far assessed the performance of various ARCs in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT) :

(a) and (b) At present, there is no proposal to provide any financial assistance for opening new agriculture research centres.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Regional Stations and Coordinating Centres of Institutes and All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) respectively under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research are conducting research in the field of agriculture and allied sectors. The ongoing research programmes of these centres are being regularly monitored through institute research councils and the research advisory committees. Further, the performance of these centres are also evaluated through Quinquennial Review Teams (QRTs) every five years.

#### **Allocation of funds from USOF**

†2050. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) has an annual income of Rs. 6000 crore;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) the total deposits in this Fund during July, 2011; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the amount allocated and the purposes for which these were allocated since the constitution of this Fund and upto July, 2011, date-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) The details of Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) received during the last three years and during July, 2011 are given in Statement-I (See below).

(d) The purpose of Universal Service Obligation Fund is to provide access to telegraph services to people in rural and remote areas at affordable and reasonable prices as stated in the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Act, 2003 [further amended *vide* Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Act, 2006]. A Statement of funds allocated/disbursed scheme-wise since inception of USOF upto 31.7.2011 is given at Statement-I (See below).

***Statement-I***

*Universal Service Obligation Fund collection for the  
last three financial years*

Year	Funds collected (Rupees in crores)
2008-09	5515.14
2009-10	5778.00
2010-11	6114.56
2011-12 (during July, 2011)	1629.01*

\* based on MIS reports

**Statement-II**

*Allocation/Disbursement of subsidy across financial years since inception for different schemes (as on 31-07-2011)*

Figures in Crores

Activities/Schemes	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 Up to July 2011	Grand Total
MARR-A		4.60	30.45	55.95	63.28	172.52	124.63	148.13	132.18	44.08	775.83
MARR-B	63.37	0.00	41.64	52.22	42.91	84.41	51.84	52.78	13.55	0.03	402.75
MOB-I							4.49	51.04	91.68	23.17	170.38
RCP				31.89	41.72	19.69	8.86	7.74	1.65	0.67	112.22
RDEL-A				120.10	872.41	727.69	174.04	166.95	30.68	0.10	2091.96
RDEL-B			114.59	1393.44	342.74	122.10	46.10	17.72	-3.97		2032.71
RDEL-D		129.00	1062.78	0.00							1191.78
RDEL-P							750.00	1377.61	2601.77	678.23	5407.61
RDEL-X							333.20	374.29	97.05	29.26	833.80
SMCF										0.10	0.10

NEW VPT Phase-I				29.86	55.40	44.73	18.65	36.88	24.83	3.01	213.35
NEW VPT Phase-II								38.40	20.73	2.75	61.88
VPT OPEX	236.63	66.40	65.13	83.39	81.54	118.87	88.17	85.89	25.05	2.90	853.97
WIRELINE-BB								42.57	64.82	30.47	137.86
GRAND TOTAL	300.00	200.00	1314.59	1766.85	1500.00	1290.00	1600.00	2400.00	3100.00	814.75	14286.19

**Description of Nomenclatures used**

Nomenclature	Description
MARR-A	Replacement of MARR VPTs after 30.6.03
MARR-B	Replacement of MARR VPTs between 1.4.02-30.6.03
MOB-I	Mobile Infrastructure (Phase-I)
RCP	Rural Community Phones
RDEL-A	RDELs installed between 1.4.05-31.3.07
RDEL-B	RDELs installed between 1.4.02-31.3.05
RDEL-D	Support towards rental differential for RDELs installed before 1.4.02. Given from 1.4.02 to 31.1.04
RDEL-P	(Support for RDELs installed before 1.4.02 on phasing out of ADC) for three years from 18.7.08
RDEL-X	RDELs installed after 1.4.07
SMCF	Solar Mobile Charging Facility
NEW VPT Phase-I	VPTs in uncovered villages, Phase I (Census 1991/Under Bharat Nirman)
NEW VPT Phase-II	VPTs in uncovered villages, Phase II (Census 2001)
VPT OPEX	Operation and Maintenance of Village Public Telephones (VPTs)
WIRELINE-BB	Wire Line Broadband