

(d) if so, the details of various marketing schemes for different agricultural products and the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government is considering any proposal to streamline these schemes;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (g) 'Agricultural Marketing' being a 'State' subject, State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations are empowered to enact rules and regulations under its respective State Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Acts for marketing of agricultural produce in their State/UT. Under this Act, various States have set up State Agricultural Marketing Boards and Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees (APMCs) for marketing of agricultural produce. The Government of India has also set up various Commodity Boards for different commercial commodities, e.g., Tea, Coffee, Spices, Tobacco and Rubber, considering their specialized requirements, including their marketing.

Various schemes are being implemented by the Government to meet specific requirements of agricultural marketing. Ministry of Agriculture is implementing schemes relating to (i) Development/Strengthening of Agriculture Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardization, (ii) Construction of Rural Godowns, (iii) Market Research Information Network to facilitate marketing of agriculture produce. Assistance is also available under National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Horticulture Board (NHB), Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to create infrastructure for agriculture marketing and post-harvest management. Ministry of Commerce and Industry is also implementing various schemes, namely, (i) Market Promotion Scheme for Tea, (ii) Market Development Scheme for Coffee, (iii) Scheme for Export Development, (iv) Promotion of Spices, and (v) Scheme for Market Development & Export Promotion of Rubber for this purpose.

The Schemes being implemented by the Government have their well defined specific purpose and are reviewed from time to time to ensure that they fulfill their objectives effectively.

4G Facilities

*606. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 4G facilities have been launched in some selected cities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the advantages of 4G over 3G and how it is going to help the public at large; and
- (d) by when 4G facilities would be launched in all major cities of the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL):

(a) Yes, Sir. BSNL and Bharti Airtel have launched 4G services.

(b) BSNL has launched WIMAX (Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access) based 4G services in various cities/districts headquarters of Kerala and Punjab circles. In addition to above, BSNL has launched WIMAX (4G) services in the rural area of AP, Assam, Bihar, Tamil Nadu (including Chennai), Gujarat, HP, Haryana, J&K, Karnataka, Maharashtra, M.P., North East, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, UP (W), UP (E), & West Bengal (excluding Andaman & Nicobar) service areas, which also include the new States of Uttaranchal, Jharkhand & Chhattisgarh.

Bharti Airtel Ltd. has launched 4G Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) services based on Long Term Evolution (LTE) technology in Kolkata and Bangalore.

(c) 4G enables higher data rate and speed as compared to 3G.

(d) As per Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) document dated 25th February, 2010, following roll out obligations are stipulated for BWA spectrum based services:

Metro service area

The licensee to whom the spectrum is assigned shall be required to provide required street level coverage using the BWA Spectrum in atleast 90% of the service area within five years of the Effective date.

Category A, B and C service areas

The licensee to whom the spectrum is assigned shall ensure that atleast 50% of the rural Short Distance Charging Areas (SDCAs) are covered within five years of the Effective date using the BWA Spectrum. Coverage of a rural SDCA would mean that atleast 90% of the area bounded by the municipal/local body limits should get the required street level coverage.

The effective date shall be the later of the date when the right to use awarded spectrum commercially commences and the date when the Unified Access Services (UAS) licence or the Internet Service Provider (ISP) - category 'A' licence, if and as applicable, is granted to the operator.

Trained teachers in schools

*607. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the proportion of trained teachers in the elementary and secondary schools along with the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) the specific measures being taken to improve the quality of teaching; and

(c) the nature of coordination between the Centre and States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) There are 8.11 lakh teachers without the requisite qualifications at the elementary level as per the District Information System for Education (DISE) 2010-11. State-wise status of teachers without requisite qualification is given in the Statement-I (*See* below). 80.52% of teachers at secondary level are trained as per Secondary Education Management Information System (SEMIS) 2010-11 (provisional). State-wise status of trained teachers is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(b) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 attaches immense significance to the role of teachers in improving the quality of elementary education by making available professionally trained teachers. It provides a time frame of five years for ensuring that all teachers in elementary schools are trained, as per the teacher qualifications laid down by the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) under section 23(1) of the RTE Act. The Act recognises the importance of providing adequate number of teachers, and provides that the prescribed Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) must be maintained for each school. It also recognises the need for subject teachers, head teachers and part instructors for art, health and work education in upper primary schools. The norms of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) have been revised to conform to the provisions of the RTE Act.