

Statement-I

Fund allotment for computerisation of post offices under "IT modernization project" during last three years

Financial year	Fund Allotted** (Rs. in crore)
2010-11	165.73
2011-12	112.84
2012-13	33.47

** The fund allotted includes for Urban Post offices also

Statement-II

Funds allotment for modernization of post offices under "project arrow" look and feel during last three years

Financial year	Fund Allotted** (Rs. in crore)
2010-11	83.86
2011-12	26.09
2012-13	74.00

** The fund allotted includes for Urban Post offices also.

Internet pornography

1618. SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA:

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

(a) whether internet pornography is fast picking up on the internet system in the country;

- (b) whether a demand has been made to ban such sites in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is having a cascading effect on young children; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Every infrastructure/ service on the Internet may be used for hosting variety of applications and content of any nature. The web infrastructure does not distinguish the nature of content. The technology is therefore, used for purposes which may be liked by one section of society and not liked by other sections of society. Pornography is one such nature of content and several groups have hosted pornography sites/content on Internet for variety of purposes. Such sites can be accessed by all sections of users. Most of the pornographic websites are hosted outside the country.

(b) and (c) Concerns are expressed regularly regarding the availability of pornography on the Internet. The filtering of pornographic sites poses a technical challenge. These websites keep on changing the names, domain addresses and hosting platforms from time to time making it difficult to filter or block such websites using technical tools available in the market. In addition, the tools provide filtering to a limited extent only. The tools, in the process, also filter genuine content and degrade the performance of systems.

(d) and (e) While the Internet provides immense opportunity to school children, Society and other individuals for entertainment, information search, education programmes, communication, online gaming etc., it brings unprecedented risks and Cyber crimes are committed against children and Society. The Children are exposed to harmful content including pornography, child pornography, video voyeurism content available on the Internet.

The Information Technology Act 2000 amended by the Information

Technology (Amendment) Act 2008 with effect from 27.10.2009 together with the Indian Penal Code 1860, provides legal framework for countering pornographic sites including child pornography. Sections 67, 67A and 67B of the Information Technology Act provides stringent punishment and fine for publishing or transmission of pornography in electronic form as well as hosting on website any information which is lascivious, or contains sexually explicit act or conduct, or depicts children engaged in sexually explicit act. Section 67 provides imprisonment up to three years and fine up to five lakh rupees for first conviction and imprisonment up to five years and fine up to ten lakh rupees for subsequent convictions. Section 67A and section 67B provides punishment up to five years and fine up to ten lakh rupees for first conviction and imprisonment up to seven years and fine up to ten lakh rupees for subsequent convictions. Further, the Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules, 2011 notified on 11.4.2011 under Section 79 of the Information Technology Act 2000 requires that Intermediaries shall publish policy on their Website advising their users *inter-alia* not to publish or transmit on their Websites.

In addition, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act 2012 (POCSO) specifically deals with the punishment for crimes against children including Publishing or transmitting of any information depicting child below the age of 18 years in Sexually Explicit Act. The crimes against Children including Child pornography has been criminalized under the said legal framework. Section 21 of the POCSO Act make it mandatory to report or record sexual offences against children. Failure to report or record such an offence is punishable with imprisonment or fine or with both.

Telecom districts in Karnataka

1619. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of telecom districts in Karnataka;
- (b) how many are working on *ad-hoc* system and since how many days;
- (c) the details thereof; and