

**Information Kiosks in Kerala**

1044. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up Information Kiosks in Gram Panchayats for enabling Information Technology related services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and number of kiosks set up in Kerala and fund provided for this purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI PARSHOTTAMRUPALA): (a) and (b) The State Government of Kerala has informed that it has taken necessary steps to setup Information Kiosks in Gram Panchayats (GPs). Information Kiosks give information about services provided by the GPs for public and status of their application. As per the State Government of Kerala, currently 108 GPs in the State have Information Kiosks and ₹ 1,09,87,153 has been provided for this purpose in the last three years.

Further, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India initiated a project namely, "Common Services Centre (CSC) 2.0" in August, 2015 under Digital India Programme for a period of four years, which aimed to set up at least one CSC at GP level to cover all the 2.5 lakh GPs across the country. The key objective of CSCs is to deliver various citizen centric services, such as, Government to Citizen (G2C), Business to Citizen (B2C) services, financial inclusion services, educational services, skill development services etc. Till January, 2018, there are 2,92,406 CSCs functioning across the country; among which, 1,83,005 CSCs are at GP level. In the State of Kerala, there are 2,498 CSCs functioning across the State; among which 1,370 CSCs are at GP level.

**Construction of Panchayat Ghar/Bhawans in Kerala**

1045. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Panchayat Ghar/ Bhawans constructed during 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 in Kerala State with Central assistance;

(b) the details of budgetary allocation and amount sanctioned to Kerala State during the last three years; and

(c) whether the assistance given to Kerala State has been curtailed or has diminished during the last three years, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI PARSHOTTAMRUPALA): (a) During 2014-15 and 2016-17 - Nil and 2015-16 - 11 (Eleven) Panchayat Ghar/Bhawans were constructed in Kerala State with Central assistance.