

**E-bill post service in Karnataka**

1172. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to introduce e-bill post service in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the post offices in Karnataka; selected for providing the above service;

(c) the post office selected for this purpose in Bangalore, Bellary, Mysore, Mangalore, Hubli; and

(d) what are the advantages of having this facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. E-Bill Post service has been launched as a pilot project in Bangalore.

(b) So far the following 20 post offices have been identified in Bangalore for introduction of e-Bill Post service:

- (1) Bangalore GPO
- (2) R.T. Nagar HO
- (3) HAL II Stage HO
- (4) Rajajinagar HO
- (5) Bangalore City HO
- (6) Jalahalli HO
- (7) Basavanagudi HO
- (8) Jayanagar HO
- (9) Bannerghatta Road PO (10)

J.P. Nagar PO

[14 March, 2002]

RAJYA SABHA

- (11) Koramangala PO
- (12) Wilson Garden PO
- (13) Frazer Town PO
- (14) Indiranagar PO
- (15) Vimanapura PO
- (16) Malleswaram PO
- (17) Vijayanagar PO
- (18) Yeshwanthapur PO
- (19) Science Institute PO
- (20) Museum Road PO

(c) As yet no post office in Bellary, Mysore, Mangalore and Hubli have been selected during the pilot phase of this service.

(d) Once the service is in place, the people will be able to pay their utility bills at any of the post office offering this service. There may not be a need for them to go to different service providers for settling their bills.

**Universal service obligation levy**

1173. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Telecom Policy provided for a Universal Service Obligation Levy to be charged from all telecom operators primarily to fund unremunerative telephone connections in the rural and other backward areas;

(b) the status of its implementation;

(c) whether Government have indicated that BSNL would also be sold off on the occasion of handing over ceremony of VSNL; and

(d) if so, who would be handing the USO levy fund and other details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.