

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:256  
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2001  
SCHEME FOR RURAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
SUBODH ROY

**Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of the present status of the plan to build a rural information technology net-work;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the first phase of new project has run into trouble; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN)

(a),(b) and (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOKSABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.256 FOR 08.08.2001 REGARDING SCHEME FOR RURAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(a): There is no plan to build up a rural information technology network. However, the Ministry of Information Technology has undertaken a project for setting up Community Information Centres (CICs) for socio-economic development of the community in the North Eastern Region. 30 CICs have been set up under this pilot project at sites selected by the State Governments which are located mostly in urban and semi-urban areas of seven North East States and Sikkim.

(b) and (c): After completion of the pilot project, the next phase of the project has been undertaken for which requisite procedural, financial and administrative approval, including approval of expenditure finance committee are being obtained. There is no trouble/problem in obtaining the aforesaid approval.