

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7246
ANSWERED ON:12.05.2000
FACILITIES TO TELECOM SECTOR BY SIDBI
THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether SIDBI has formulated any scheme to provide internet E-Mail facilities to private telephone booths;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of PCOs selected under the said scheme, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATH) :

(a) to (c) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that it has enlarged eligibility criteria of refinance scheme to include certain information technology related services which meet other norms and parameters of refinance scheme of SIDBI. Up-gradation of existing Public Call Office/ Subscribers Trunk Dialing (PCO/STD) booths into cyber cafes would be eligible for assistance under the refinance scheme. The applications for refinance of these activities are being received by SIDBI from some lending institutions such as commercial banks and SFCs on a regular basis. These activities have only recently been made eligible for refinance from SIDBI. As per the latest information available from SIDBI as on 31.3.2000, 61 applications with respect to some (PLIs) have been sanctioned refinance to the tune of Rs. 3.48 crore and an amount of Rs. 96 lakhs have been disbursed against these sanctions.