

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:33
ANSWERED ON:17.02.2006
PANCHAYAT SANCHAR KENDRA
Barman Shri Ranen

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

- (a) whether it has been made mandatory for Panchayat Sanchar Kendras (PSKs) to do a business of Rs.1500 per week and Rs. 6000 per month;
- (b) if so, whether any concession has been given in this regard to the hilly and tribal areas of the country;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that the said volume of business is not possible in the hilly areas;
- (e) if so, whether directions are being issued for closure of such PSKs; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

- (a) & (b) No, Sir. However in pursuance of the Government of India (Ministry of Finance) directives, for preparing an 'outcome budget', for various Plan activities, including the Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojana, some achievable and differential parameters, for normal rural and hilly and tribal areas were fixed. Based on these parameters, Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs) in normal rural areas are expected to earn a minimum revenue of Rs. 1850/- per month while those in hilly and tribal areas are only expected to earn a minimum revenue of Rs. 800/- per month.
- (c) Does not arise in view of (a) & (b) above.
- (d) Since Government is aware of the circumstances in hilly and tribal areas, differential parameters have been adopted as indicated in the reply to (a) & (b) above.
- (e) No, Sir.
- (f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.