

PRESS NOTE

LETTERS OF INTENT ISSUED FOR RAJIV INTERNET VILLAGE (RAJiv) PROJECT

Govt. in an order issued vide G.O.Ms.No.12, Dt.04.05.2005, approved the implementation of Rajiv Internet Village (RAJiv) Programme in 8618 villages across the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Based on Govt. approval, the Director, Electronically Deliverable Services (eSeva), issued 'Letters of Intent' on 6th May 2005 to the Consortium led by M/s Bharat Electronics Ltd, as the Principal Partner and M/s Radiant Infosystems Pvt Ltd, IBM and BSNL as members, for setting up 5550 centres and to the Consortium led by M/s TIMES (an NGO) as the Principal Partner and M/s ComVision India Pvt Ltd, as a member, for setting up 3068 centres.

The bidders were finalized in a competitive process through an RFP (Request For Proposal) issued in the November 2004, for setting up the Rajiv Internet Village centres under Public Private Partnership (PPP) model, in which the total investments are made by the partners themselves.

The RAJiv project aims to bring Government closer to the people living in rural areas and achieve the objectives of (i) Convenient access to Information and services to rural areas, (ii) Providing Computer literacy to at least one person in each family in rural areas and (iii) Connectivity to rural areas with high band width. Through the implementation of the Rajiv Internet Village Project, Govt. of A.P. is planning to deliver all relevant rural G2C and B2C services through these centres.

The district-wise break-up of Rajiv Internet centres that will be set up by M/s BEL are West Godavari (400), Khammam (303), Krishna (466), Guntur (446), Prakasam (421), Nellore (318), Anantapur (479), Kurnool(440), Kadapa (265), Chittoor (501) Adilabad (213) Karimnagar (508) Warangal (504) and Nizamabad (286). The Times consortium will set up kiosks in Mahbubnagar (524) Ranga Reddy (248) Medak (345) Nalgonda (570). Srikakulam (294), Vizianagaram (244), Visakhapatnam (306) and East Godavari (537). These Centres are expected to be operational by October, 2005.

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Govt of A.P., Hyderabad