

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5487
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2001
COMMUNITY INTERNET SYSTEM
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Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have launched Community Internet System in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their main features and locations where the above system has been installed, State-wise;
- (c) the cost and the utility of the above system; and
- (d) the time by which this system is likely to be installed in each State?

Answer

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

(a),(b),(c) and (d): With a view to accelerating the socioeconomic development of the community in hilly areas of difficult geographical terrain having poor infrastructural and communication facilities in the North-East region of the country, a scheme has been approved for providing connectivity at 487 block headquarters of all North East States and Sikkim by setting up of Community Information Centres (CICs) within two years at an estimated cost of Rs.220 crores.

A pilot project was launched in August, 2000 at an estimated cost of Rs.15 crores by setting up 30 CICs in the aforesaid states at sites selected by the State Government. Based on the experience gained therefrom, CICs are to be set up at the remaining 457 block headquarters of these States.