

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4222
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2005
E READINESS ASSESSMENT REPORT
Moghe Shri Krishna Murari

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

(a) whether according to India e-Readiness Assessment Report - 2004, Madhya Pradesh is positioned in 'Expectant' below thirteen States; and

(b) if so, the details of the initiatives taken by the Union Government to boost e-governance services in Madhya Pradesh?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a): As per the India e-Readiness Assessment Report-2004, Madhya Pradesh has been ranked in the category of 'Expectant' and above this category there are Eleven States at two categories of Leaders & Aspiring Leaders. In the Report, ranking of States in the same category has not been done.

(b): Department of Information Technology (DIT) has taken following major steps to boost e-Governance services in the State of Madhya Pradesh:

i) DIT through National Informatics Centre (NIC) is providing backbone e-governance network and technical support to the Central Government Departments, States, UTs and District Administrations in the country. In line with this, NIC is also providing e-Governance support to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh. Video Conferencing facility has also been provided in all the 48 Districts of the State.

ii) A Scheme for establishment of State Wide Area Networks (SWANs) for providing minimum data connectivity of 2 MBPS up to the block level has been approved by Government in March, 2005 with a total outlay of Rs.3334 crores with Central Assistance component of Rs.2005 crores covering capital and operating expenditure over a period of 5 years. Under this scheme, a proposal from the State of Madhya Pradesh has also been approved at an outlay of Rs.58.50 crores.

iii) Madhya Pradesh has also been provided funds to draw up a road map for Capacity Building program under the special scheme on Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to States for National e- Governance Plan (NeGP).

(iv) DIT is working on a Plan to establish Information & Communication Technology (ICT) enabled Common Services Centres (CSCs) predominantly in the rural areas across the country. These CSCs would have the flexibility to offer a mix of services (both Government and non-Government including localized services) that may be needed by the local community.