

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2867
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2006
COMBATING COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether with a view to improve communication to combat communicable diseases, the National Institute of Communicable Diseases has decided to link 400 sites through satellite so that information can be freely exchanged and plans on outbreak and epidemics implemented quickly;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to initiate a tie up with the Indian Space Research Organisation in this regard;
- (c) if so, whether the WHO is also supporting this project;
- (d) if so, the total cost likely to be involved therein;
- (e) whether the rest of the country is likely to be linked by 2007; and
- (f) if so, the complete details in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)to(f): Under the integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP), the Indian Space Research Organization has agreed to provide band-width of EDUSAT for establishing satellite linkage between National Institute of Communicable Diseases and State and District Surveillance Units, Medical Colleges, Reference Laboratories and other National and State level Health Institutions. Under the Project 800 Satellite Interactive Terminals are to be installed throughout the country during the year 2006-07. The total cost of the facility would be approximately Rs.27 crore for installation of equipment. ISRO is providing bandwidth free of cost. Recurring cost per annum to maintain the facility would be approximately 10% of capital cost. The project is funded by the World Bank.