

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SPACE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1134  
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2006  
SETTING UP OF MODEL VILLAGE RESOURCE CENTRE  
Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

**Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up model Village Resource Centre (VRC) for backward areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether VRCs are to be developed by the ISRO; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the locations, if any, identified so far, particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

- (a) Department of Space has embarked upon a programme to set up Village Resource Centres (VRCs) in the rural and backward areas.
- (b) The VRCs are envisaged to provide the space technology enabled services like telemedicine; tele-education; natural resources information and advisories on agriculture, land & water resources, weather and fisheries. The VRCs aim to reach these services directly to the rural community through a single window mechanism.
- (c) The VRCs are being developed and set up by ISRO, in association with selected NGOs, Trusts and the Government agencies.
- (d) In Andhra Pradesh, 2 VRCs have so far been set up - one at Moosapet in Mahabubnagar district, and the other at ICRISAT, Hyderabad, in association with MS Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai. Another 31 VRCs are being set up in 8 districts, namely, Adilabad, Chittur, East Godavari, Guntur, Hyderabad, Krishna, Nalgonda and West Godavari, in association with Byrraju Foundation and Dhan Foundation.