

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1102
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2006
VSAT BASED MONEY ORDER SYSTEM .
Jha Shri Raghunath;Sen Smt. Minati

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

- (a) Whether the Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) based Money Order system was introduced by the Department of Posts in 1995 to transmit money order advices through satellite to enable the poorer sections of society to send money orders quickly at no extra cost;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether as against the target of 100 per cent transmission of money orders through VSAT only 13.54 per cent transmission could be achieved till 2004-05;
- (d) If so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) The steps taken by the Government to overcome the deficiencies in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) Initially 77 Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs) based on Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) technology were commissioned in the year 1995 all over the country. Thereafter in the year 2001, 150 High Speed VSATs based on Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) technology were commissioned for faster communication of data. The details of locations of such high speed VSATs are given in the Annexure.
- (c) 100% transmission of money orders through VSATs was not achieved for the reasons as stated in part (d) below.
- (d) The reasons are that the local money orders which constitute a large percentage of total money orders now-a-days are not transmitted through VSATs to give maximum delivery advantage to the customers. In addition Speed Post money orders, money orders having long communication messages in regional languages are also not transmitted through VSATs.
- (e) Modification of the application software for bulk inputting of money orders, increasing number of post offices covered by the network, daily monitoring of traffic and functioning of the system are some major steps taken by the Government to overcome the deficiencies in implementation of the project.