

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SPACE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:96  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2004  
SATELLITE BASED RURAL INTERFACE  
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

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

- (a) whether a satellite based rural interface is now in operation to serve a variety of community needs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the role of Indian Space Research Organisation in setting up the village resource centre?

**Answer**

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c) Indian Space Research Organisation, in association with selected non- governmental and voluntary agencies, has embarked upon a new initiative to set up satellite based Village Resource Centres (VRCs) in different parts of the country. These VRCs are meant for reaching a variety of services and products emanating from space technology; such as, tele- education, tele-medicine, spatial information on natural resources for developmental planning at micro-watershed and village levels, interactive advisory services related to agriculture development, advisories on fisheries potential, etc., directly to the rural communities. Indian Space Research Organisation provides digital connectivity to the Village Resource Centres (VRCs) through the INSAT satellites for enabling the services as stated above and spatial data and information on land and water resources through the IRS satellites for developmental planning at local levels.