

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2467  
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2004  
INDO AFRICAN SATELLITE NETWORK  
Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan,Vijay Krishna Shri

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

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(a) whether the Government proposes to provide seamless and integrated satellite fibre optics and wireless network with a purpose to provide tele-education, telemedicine and e-services to African countries;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be done?

**Answer**

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

(a),(b) and (c): The Hon`ble President of India, during his visit to South Africa in September, 2004, announced that the Government of India, has decided to provide seamless and integrated satellite, fibre optics and wireless network connecting 53 African countries for tele-education, tele-medicine and e-services. The network is expected to be in position within the next three years time and all the African nations participating in this network would be able to reap the full benefits.