

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:609

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009

OPTICAL FIBRE CABLE NETWORK FOR DEFENCE FORCES

Basavaraj Shri Gangasandra Siddappa;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash;Ray Shri Bishnu Pada;Sule Supriya

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up a state-of-the-art optical fibre cable network for the defence forces;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the expenditure to be incurred thereon and the agencies involved in the project;
- (c) whether the Government has worked out the relative advantage in relation to the existing network;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, indicating the extent to which the capabilities of the force will increase; and
- (e) the time by which the project will be completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The estimated cost of the network is Rs.9970 crores.This includes Rs.1077 crores for the Air Force Network (AFNET) on which work is underway. The project will be implemented by BSNL.

(c) & (d): The proposed network will enable the Defence Forces to shift certain wireless links working in the coordinated frequency band to this network.

(e) As per MoC & IT's estimates, the project is expected to be completed in 3 ½ years.