

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3699
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2001
COMPUTERISED BRAILLE TRANSCRIPTION
P.D. ELANGO VAN

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the IT Ministry have initiated the computerized Braille Transcription and printing system for the benefit of Blind Students;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government propose to develop such system to support all the 18 regional languages including Tamil recognised as an official language; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PF MAHAJAN)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Ministry of Information Technology has initiated a project entitled `National Prgram for Braille literacy in Indian languages with the application of Information Technology` in March, 2000. The MIT contribution for the project would be Rs.10.35 crores over a period of 5 years. 30 blind schools from different parts of the country have been identified for installation of educational infrastructure comprising of Braille to text, text to Braille software, personal computers, indigenously developed Braille embosser etc. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur and WEBEL are executing the project.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d): Development of Computerized Text to Braille Transcription and Printing system for all the Indian languages including Tamil is complete.