

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2847
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2002
RADIO STATION OF THE STATES
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;SURESH KODIKUNNIL

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether after setting up of its own Television channel the Government of Andhra Pradesh is planning to tie-up with a US Company to set up its own Radio Broadcasting Station ;
- (b) if so, whether the US based World Space Satellite Inc. has agreed to help the State Government in setting up its own Radio Station and provide free service for just six months; (
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether any other States are also considering to set up their own radio station in the States ;
- (e) if so, whether the Union Government has granted permission to do so; and
- (f) if so, the names of States which have been permitted to set up their own Radio Stations so far?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (c) : Broadcasting is a subject included in the Union List under the Constitution .Therefore, as per the extant policy, State Governments are not permitted to set up TV Channels or Broadcasting Stations. The Central Government has not received any proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to set up a Radio Station in Andhra Pradesh. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has, however, informed that they are examining a proposal to utilize the existing World Space Capacity for transmission of its programmes on Education, Development, Communications and Disaster Management, to rural and remote areas of the State. The proposal envisages provision of channel capacity by World Space, on a trial basis, on the North-West beam of its Asia Star Satellite.

(d) : The State Governments of Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and Punjab have requested that State Governments be allowed to set up their own Radio Stations.

(e) :No, Sir.

(f) : Does not arise.