

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7645

ANSWERED ON:16.05.2002

DOORDARSHAN TO REMOTE NORTH EAST AND FAR FLUNG AREAS

GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;SUBODH MOHITE;T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

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

- (a) whether the working group on the Tenth Five Year Plan on information and broadcasting has made suggestions to achieve 100 percent coverage of Doordarshan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; (
- (c) whether the Ministry has pointed out that Rs.4000 crore would be needed to reach out to the remote North-East and far-flung areas by the existing terrestrial network ;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the steps, the Union Government are considering to take the television coverage to the rural population in remote areas during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government/ Planning Commission to provide the required funds ?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : Working Group on 10th Five Year Plan of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has recommended provision of TV Coverage to uncovered areas with a multi-channel bouquet in free to air mode in Ku band through satellite distribution system

(c) & (d) : A Sub-Group on `Carriage and Technology` set up by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting in connection with the finalisation of the 10th Five Year Plan had estimated that for extending Doordarshan coverage to 100 percent population interrestrial mode, an expenditure of about Rs.3456 crores would be required .

(e) & (f) : In terrestrial mode DD coverage is available to about 90 per cent population of the country (including the population in rural and remote areas) and this is expected to increase to about 91 per cent after commissioning of the ongoing transmitter projects. The expansion in terrestrial mode will be continued in 10th Plan as well. Alternative technology options have also been included to provide coverage to hitherto uncovered areas. Adequate provision for this purpose has been made in the draft 10th Plan of DDn.