

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1701
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2002
CABLE T.V. SERVICES
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

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

e:

- (a) whether the Prasar Bharati has decided to enter into cable TV services, using the optical fibre networks of telecom companies;
- (b) if so, whether it has also started negotiations with the Government-owned telecom companies MTNL and BSNL to provide cable TV services;
- (c) if so, whether any concrete agreement has been reached in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Prasar Bharati has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with MTNL for cooperation in exploring new business opportunities for utilising their fibre optic networks for carriage of Doordarshan services. Negotiations are being held with MTNL. No final decision has been taken so far.