

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2268
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2006
MISSION 2007 FOR RURAL KNOWLEDGE CENTRES
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Mission 2007 aims to provide knowledge connectivity to every village of India by August 15, 2007 through rural knowledge centers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the extent to which the work on this project is going on and the details of organizations which are helping in implementing this Mission?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL)

- (a) The Village Knowledge Centre is a concept propagated by Mission 2007 of the Ministry of Information Technology. It aims to achieve a knowledge revolution in India by making every village a Knowledge Centre. It seeks to do so by launching a self propelling, self replicating and self sustaining model of Information Communication Technology (ICT) for rural regeneration and prosperity by creating a platform different partner institutions to work together.
- (b) The Mission's objective is to facilitate and accelerate, through multi-stakeholder collaborations, the provision of knowledge centres in each village. Each of these centres would be a center for knowledge-based livelihoods and income-generation opportunities for poor women and men, farming communities and all disadvantaged people. Such Knowledge Centres can be put together on a sustainable platform through multi- stakeholder partnerships between the private sector, the government and civil society organizations.
- (c) There are innumerable organizations who are partners of Mission 2007, the details of which are available with Ministry of Information Technology. The Government of India has also decided to support the alliance and in the budget of 2005-06 a provision of Rs.100 crores was made for supporting this initiative, with the fund to be routed through NABARD. Further, the Government has also prepared a draft framework to create an enabling environment with policy interventions and financial support, to facilitate establishment of 1,00,000 + Common Service Centres, across the country, primarily in rural areas. These Centres would aim to provide Government and other services at the doorstep of the citizen and would also meet the objectives of Mission 2007.