

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4139  
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2005  
TELEMEDICINE FACILITIES  
Chakraborty Dr. Sujan

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a national policy for providing telemedicine facilities by various hospitals/ nursing homes in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the list of hospitals/ nursing homes currently providing the said facilities in the country, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government is considering to formulate a strategy for popularizing the telemedicine facilities in the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

- (a) Government proposes to formulate a national policy for providing telemedicine facilities at various Government Hospitals and teaching institutions.
- (b): A National Task Force on Telemedicine in India has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary(Health and Family Welfare) with experts in the field from various related Government Departments and non-Government Institutions/ Organisations, as members.  
One of the terms of reference for this task force is to formulate a national policy for telemedicine. . ,
- (c): Attached at Annexure.
- (d): Yes.
- (e): First meeting of the National Task Force on Telemedicine was held on 20th October, 2005 under the Chairmanship of cretary (Health and Family Welfare). Various issues related to telemedicine i.e. standard and operational aspects, national telemedicine grid, formulation of national policy on telemedicine, and efforts for making telemedicine popular are included in the terms of reference of the National Task Force on Telemedicine.
- (f): Not applicable in view of (e) above.