

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2707
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2007
SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY FOR CURING DISEASE
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware of the plan of the Gujarat Government to cure diseases by using satellite technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to use this technology all over the country?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) The State Government of Gujarat is implementing Telemedicine Pilot project to connect Community Health Centres to higher level institutions via satellite for seeking technical advice. The VSAT connectivity, for this purpose, is provided by ISRO and the project is proposed to be extended to 25 units. The State of Gujarat is also implementing Hospital Management Information System in 25 District Hospitals and six teaching hospitals.

The Global Positioning System (GPS) is being used in Gujarat to monitor movement of Mobile Medical Units. At present, 40 MHUs are being monitored through GPS. The State is also using satellite-based technologies for disease surveillance and monitoring.

The Government of India is supporting telemedicine projects being managed by various stakeholders and funding for continuation/scale up are given on case to case basis after evaluation.