

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1194
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010
NODAL BODY FOR NEWS
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up a nodal body for broadcasting of news in the event of major crisis;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the other functions of the said body;
- (c) the present status of the proposal; and
- (d) the time by which the said body is likely to be set up and functional?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. JATUA)

(a) to (d): At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to set up a nodal body for broadcasting of news in the event of major crisis.

The Government has outlined a 'Standard Operating Procedure' (SOP) to facilitate the flow of information to media during crisis situations. The Standard Operating Procedure has been designed after consultations with various stakeholders to specify steps that are required to be taken with reference to media facilitation at the Central and State levels. Salient features of the Standard Operating Procedure' for Media Facilitation are annexed.