

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:485
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2013
GRAMSAT SCHEME IN ASSAM
Ajmal Shri Badruddin

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the expenditure incurred under GRAMSAT scheme, especially in tribal/ minority dominated districts of Assam during the last three years including the current year;
- (b) the details of programmes transmitted under this scheme;
- (c) whether the State Government encourages tribal/minority people to participate in these programmes with a view to promote tribal culture; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PG & PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

- (a) Under 'GRAMSAT' scheme, ISRO's contribution is to provide the necessary satellite bandwidth to respective state governments. The expenditure for providing satellite bandwidth for last 3 years amounts to approximately ` 9 Crore (at a rate of ` 3 Crore per year). The expenditure towards content generation and transmission is borne by the State Governments of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Karnataka for the operation in their respective states. The 'GRAMSAT' scheme is not operational in the state of Assam.
- (b) The details of the programme transmitted under the scheme have been under the purview of the State Governments concerned. Generally, these programmes cover areas such as mass education, tribal culture, anganwadi workers' training, fisheries, forest and environment.
- (c) Yes, Madam.
- (d) The State Governments concerned formulate the programmes to be transmitted on the GRAMSAT network and include programmes such as 'Kuch Soche Kuch Samjhe', 'Bhor Honewali Hai', 'Kahani Baba', 'Ek Tha Raja', 'Baat Hamari' to promote tribal development and culture.