

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:238
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2015
Distance Education through EDUSAT
Devi Smt. Rama

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in the absence of proper publicity EDUSAT dedicated to education could not become the popular means of distance education among students; and
(b) if so, the efforts being made by the Union and State Governments for its publicity and to make it popular?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b): The Department of Space (DOS)/Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) undertook the EDUSAT Programme for demonstrating the potential of Space technology towards meeting the needs of education sector. DOS/ISRO played a role of technology provider by launching the EDUSAT satellite and providing ground equipment. The responsibility of content, operations, management and publicity remains with the State/Central user agencies. However, towards publicity measures DOS/ISRO held pre-launch consultations with prospective users from State Governments/ Universities including bringing out brochures on EDUSAT programme. Further, user agencies like Utkarsh Society, Haryana; Punjab Education Society, Punjab; Society for APNET, Andhra Pradesh; BISAG, Gujarat, VTU e-learning, Karnataka; Vickers, Kerala; Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC), New Delhi are making publicity through their websites.

Further, it is mentioned that EDUSAT (Tele-education) networks are popular in the states of Haryana, Punjab, Gujarat, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, where the States have suitable mechanism to address the aspects of operations, management, content generation, etc.

As per the information furnished by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), the university operates a small network under the EDUSAT project for carrying out teleconferencing sessions of Gyan Darshan-2 (DTH TV Channel). Under EDUSAT project, the students get assembled at select EDUSAT nodes at IGNOU's Regional centres and Study Centres to participate in the live session and also interact with teachers. Further, CEC, New Delhi is operating one of the EDUSAT National Beam since September, 2005 and regular one hour live transmission of the lectures delivered by the subject experts started from the CEC/Media Centres Studios. In view of the requirement of students, since May 2014, CEC has started four (4) hours live transmission of lectures on EDUSAT network. The same are available through the CEC website www.cec-ugc.nic.in.
