

(b) the progress of ground infrastructure and content generation according to plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) the launch of EDUSAT, the Satellite exclusively dedicated for educational purposes is planned to take place by September, 2004. The Department of Space has established Pilot Projects in the States of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. The contents for the Pilot Project have been already generated and will be used along with EDUSAT.

A ground station and 500 inter-active and non- interactive terminals have been procured and the hub station installation is under progress at Ahmedabad. The user agencies for the immediate utilization are being defined and terminals already procured will be installed immediately so that utilization can be started as soon as the spacecraft is available. User agencies selected for immediate utilization are those with study content available. This includes Consortium of Educational Community of University Grants Commission, Central Institute of Technology of NCERT, IGNOU, IITs, etc. Further 885 schools in the Chamarajanagar District in the State of Karnataka are being provided with receive only terminals for imparting primary and secondary education. Established education networks like APNET will also be transferred to EDUSAT from the present transponders in the INSAT system.

Affairs of Guwahati and Dibrugarh Universities

1236. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state whether Government would examine the various problems faced by both the Guwahati and Dibrugarh Universities affecting the academic career of the students and take remedial measures in the interest of the students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): As per available information, there are no problems faced by Guwahati and Dibrugarh Universities, vis-a-vis the Central Government. these universities have been set up by or under the statute of the State and measures, if any, are to be taken in the State.