

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN LEADS DELEGATION TO WORLD SUMMIT ON INFORMATION SOCIETY TO BE HELD AT TUNIS

New Delhi, November 14, 2005

Shri Dayanidhi Maran Minister of Communications and Information Technology will be leading a high level delegation, to the 2nd phase of World Summit on Information Society (WSIS), scheduled to be held at Tunis from 16-18, November 2005. The Chairman Telecom Commission Dr. J.S. Sarma will accompany the Minister along with other senior officials of the Departments of Telecommunications and Information Technology . Shri Kiran Karnik, President, NASSCOM would also be part of the delegation.

The WSIS is being held in two phases, the first phase took place in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003, where 175 countries adopted a Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action. In Tunis phase, efforts are being made to put the Plan of Action into motion and working groups have been set up to find solutions and reach agreements in the fields of Internet governance and financing mechanisms. The Tunis phase of the WSIS is a culmination of a process began in Geneva.

The agenda of the summit comprises of three main issues namely, Internet governance and administration of resources, financing mechanism for ICT for development and future road map for information society and ICT for development. During conference the Indian delegation would highlight that India has lot to share with developing countries in relevant ICT programs like tele-medicines, tele-education, e-governance, digital library, multilingualism and similar applications. On future road map for information society and ICT for development, India would like to state that with a view to take dialogue forward , establishment of a suitable mechanism of financing ICT for development as well as collaborative exchanges needs to be considered by the summit.

During the Summit , several parallel events like WSIS Exhibition, "ICT 4 All" are also being organized , where Government of India is setting up India Pavilion with a focus on "ICT 4 Development and Solidarity". It will showcase India's efforts to ensure that ICT touches all segments of society. In this pavilion, the Indian companies such as C-DAC, and TCIL from Government sector and Infosys, TCS, HCL, Midas, Tejas, ITC and NIIT from private sector are participating. Some of these companies would showcase their projects in real-time including tele-medicine, e-governance applications, and fiber to home technology etc.

For further details of the Summit, Please visit www.itu.int/wsis

BAE
AD:PC:HSR

