

Satellite usage by Malaysia

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SATELLITE USAGE BY MALAYSIA

a) Malaysia do not have its own satellite. However it does use a number a satellites to serve its communication requirements for both internal and external telecommunications.

2. INTELSAT AND PALAPA

Of the three intelsat satellite over the Indian Ocean Malaysia is using two of them i.e., the Primary and the Spare Satellites. Of the two Pacific Satellites Malaysia is using only the Primary.

2.1 INDIAN OCEAN PRIMARY INTELSAT - Currently Malaysia is having two carriers on this satellite. The first carrier links Malaysia with Europe with 132 telephone channels. A second carrier on the Primary Satellite links Malaysia with Hong Kong. This particular link has a full capacity of 180 channels of which 140 are in use.

2.2 INDIAN OCEAN SPARE INTELSAT - This satellite is actually a spare for both the Primary and the Major Satellite. However it is being used by Malaysia to carry its Second National TV Network from its main production centre to Sabah and Sarawak. This TV link only uses a half transponder. As the bandwidth of a half transponder is only 17.5 MHz a slight deterioration signal quality at the Sabah and Sarawak ends can be expected.

2.3 PACIFIC OCEAN PRIMARY INTELSAT - Malaysia uses this satellite to achieve its overseas telephone links to countries to the eastern side of her shores. The first carrier on this satellite links Malaysia with USA and Canada. This link consists of 312 telephone channels.

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The second carrier however serves to link Malaysia with Taipeh, Korea, Japan and Australia. A total of 132 telephone channels is available to Malaysia for this purpose.

2.4 PALAPA - The Palapa B1 is used by Malaysia to carry its First National TV Network to Sabah and Sarawak. A full transponder of 30 MHz is available for this purpose.

3. EARTH SATELLITE STATIONS

The Malaysian earth satellite stations are located at four places viz Kuantan and Melaka on the Peninsular Malaysia, Kota Kinabalu in Sabah and Kuching in Sarawak. How these places are linked by satellite can be seen from the diagram attached.

From this diagram it can be seen that the Melaka earth station is linked to Europe and Hong Kong via the Primary Indian Ocean Intelsat Satellite. The Spare Indian Ocean Intelsat Satellite provides a TV link from Kuantan to Kota Kinabalu. The Palapa satellite on the other hand provides a TV link from Kuantan to Kuching. Malaysia's link to USA, Canada, Taipeh, Japan, Korea and Australia is handled by the Primary Pacific Ocean Intelsat Satellite via the Kuantan Earth Station.

4. TVRO AND SCPC

These facilities are being used by Malaysia to serve some of its rural population and industrial works that are beyond the normal reach of terrestrial means for purpose of broadcasting and communication. To date only one TVRO station has been installed. This is currently giving service to the communities around Kapit in Sarawak. SCPC facilities are currently being used by oil rigs in the open seas and small rural communities to meet their communication needs.

5. TELEVISION COVERAGE

As of now Malaysia's TV coverage of both networks reach 80% of the population. The other 20% either receives low grade reception or none at all. This situation will change for the better in the years 1986 - 1990 when the country proposes to construct 45 additional TV transmitting stations. However it is certain that there will be other areas that will not receive reasonable signal

strength because of their remoteness from the transmitters or by the fact that they are being obstructed from the transmitters. The task of meeting the requirement of this segment of population will be a difficult and expensive affair. Trying to meet this balance demand will be a formidable task if the terrestrial approach is resorted to. A satellite approach may have to be adopted in the 1990's.

6. LIVE OVERSEAS TELECAST

The usage of satellite to link overseas TV programmes to the Malaysian network has been happening regularly. A total of 68 live-telecasts using satellites were carried out in 1983 and in 1984 this figure is expected to reach 114. The majority of these live telecast are for major sporting events overseas.

7. NEWS EXCHANGE

The ABU has under its portfolio the concept of having television news exchange via satellite now known as Asiavision. Malaysia has derived many benefits apart from the enrichment of our news-castings. It is found that the standards of coverage of even the domestic news coverage have gone up. Reporters and cameramen have developed a competitive urge to see that their standards of coverage match or are even better than the standards set by the contributions from other members.

8. TELECONFERENCING

The use of TV teleconferencing facilities is an attractive proposition for embassies and major companies with overseas affiliate or offices. The reason for having teleconferencing is quite evident in term of displacement of direct travel costs, and the increased productivity and efficiency resulting from that reduced travel. Malaysia has twice participated in providing teleconferencing facilities to the American and Canadian Government. The exercise proved to be a success and hopefully there will be more teleconferencing events in Malaysia.

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MALYSIAN USE OF SATELLITES

