

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:933
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2002
INTERNET TELEPHONY SYSTEM
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has decided to open Internet Telephony System in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be started; and
- (d) the countries which have already allowed the transmission Internet Telephony System with India?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SIKDAR)

- (a) & (b): Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) have given their recommendations on opening up of Internet Telephony to the Government on 20.02.2002.
- (c) Guidelines for operation of Internet Telephony are likely to be issued by 1st April, 2002.
- (d) Telephony on Internet is not permitted in India as on date. However, as per International Telecommunication Union (ITU) publication, the countries which permit Internet Telephony with varying degrees of regulation are- Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bhutan, Congo, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Gambia, Guatemala, Guyana, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Poland, Slovak Republic, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Tonga, Uganda, United States, Vietnam, European Union Countries Hungary, Iceland, Norway, Czech Republic, Hongkong SAR, Japan, Singapore, Switzerland, Australia, Canada, China, Israel, Korea (Rep.), Malaysia.