

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:367

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003

SETTING UP OF GROUP FOR TELECOM SECTOR

GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government have set up a six member Group of Ministers to look into the wide ranging issues in the telecom sector including WLL and unified licence regime;

(b) if so, the main issues thereof; and

(c) the time by which the committee is likely to give its recommendations?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI J. PRADHAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Group of Ministers on Telecom Matters was required to make recommendations on eight Terms of Reference relating to release of adequate spectrum needed for the telecom sector, measures for realization of New Telecom Policy-1999 (NTP-99) targets of rural telephony, resolution of issues regarding the Convergence Bill, charting the course to a Universal License, enforcement of limited mobility within the SDCA (Short Distance Covering Area) for Wireless in Local Loop [WLL(Mobile)] services of basic operators, Foreign Direct Investment limits (FDIs) in telecom sector, mergers and acquisition and imposition of trade tax on telecom services.

(c) The Group of Ministers on Telecom Matters gave its recommendations on 30.10.2003.