

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMUNICATIONS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1094  
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2000  
TELECOM FACILITIES IN SIKKIM  
SURESH CHANDEL

**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government propose to provide video conferencing, wireless telephony in Gangtok;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether STD circuit in the Sikkim is very low;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) It is planned to upgrade the telephone exchange of Gangtok to facilitate ISDN services like Video Conferencing during 2000-2001. Wireless in Local Loop(WLL) system is planned to be introduced in Gangtok during 2001-2002.
- (c) & (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Optical fibre connectivity is being provided to most of the exchanges to further improve the STD services.