

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMUNICATIONS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1295  
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2000  
RECOMMENDATIONS BY GROUP ON TELECOM AND IT CONVERGENCE  
Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

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

- (a) whether a group on Telecom and IT convergence has submitted its recommendations to the Government in regard to resolving of some of the major problems being faced by the two sectors;
- (b) if so, the main recommendations made by the group;
- (c) whether the Government have accepted the recommendations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether one of the recommendations was revenue sharing for paging;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the steps being taken by the Government to implement those recommendations?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The main recommendations made so far by the Group on Telecom and IT Convergence (GOT-IT), inter-alia relates to:

- (i) Extension of January 31, 2000, deadline for payment of license fee under the Migration Package, in respect of Basic and Cellular Mobile Telephone Services Providers, which had already been approved by Government.
- (ii) Five year lock-in period for sponsor equity.
- (iii) Problems of Radio Paging Industry.
- (iv) Use of Submarine Fibre Optic Cable by Internet Service Providers for setting up Gateways to improve availability of international bandwidth.
- (v) Modalities of interest calculation on the license fee dues subsequent to July 31, 1999 in respect of Basic and Cellular Mobile Services Providers in accordance with the migration package.

The recommendations mentioned at paras

- (ii) to
- (v) above are under consideration of the Government.

(e) & (g) Yes, Sir. GOT-IT recommended that the Paging Industry may be allowed to migrate to revenue sharing from August 1, 1999. This recommendation of GOT-IT is under consideration of the Government.