

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4420
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2001
EFFECT OF FREE E-MAIL
VIRENDRA KUMAR

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the adverse effect of free e-mail on paid e-mail;
- (b) whether the free e-mail are choking the paid e-mail; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to restrict free e- mail?

Answer

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN)

- (a) and (b): There are two common modes of providing e-mail service on commercial basis; namely
 - (i) Free e-mail to subscribers supported by the revenue generated through advertisements, etc; and
 - (ii) Paid e-mail with no or minimal advertisement. The choice amongst the above is purely on commercial strategy and considerations.
- (c): In light of the above, there is no need for Government to intervene or restrict free e-mails.