

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMUNICATIONS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1306  
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2000  
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BY WORLD BANK  
JASWANT SINGH YADAV

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

- (a) whether the World Bank has announced to grant loan to strengthen the telecommunication network in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of loan likely to be provided by the World Bank to India to implement the project; and
- (c) the extent to which this project would help in making the role of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India more effective and in improving the cellular satellite communication facilities and long distance telephone services ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The loan amount agreed to by the World Bank is US \$ 62 million for Telecom Sector Reform Technical Assistance Project. This loan has a component of US \$ 57 million for implementation of an Automated Spectrum Management system of Wireless Planning & Coordination Wing (WPC) and capacity building in Telecom Engineering Centre (TEC) and DOT (HQs). In addition to this, a component of US \$ 5 million will be available to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)/Telecom Disputes Settlement Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT)

(c) TRAI has identified a number of Consultancy Projects to be taken up under World Bank Technical Assistance Programme. The projects under this programme will enable the TRAI to acquire knowledge about the best international practices in regulating the telecom sector in a liberalised environment, and will therefore enable the Regulator to be more effective in discharge of its assigned functions.