

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2349
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2000
LICENSING PROCESS
BHERU LAL MEENA;DEEPAK KUMAR;TARACHAND BHAGORA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the entire process of licensing is limited and restricted to few companies;
- (b) if so, whether the Government propose to liberalise the telecom services allowing free and open competition in order to benefit the entire country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) No sir.

(b) to (d) The Government has already decided to issue licences for some of the Telecom Services like Internet Service, Global Mobile Personal Communication Service (GMPCS), Public Mobile Radio Trunk Service (PMRTS) and National Long Distance operations without any restriction on the number of entrants. Due to the constraints of availability of spectrum the number of entrants is limited in the case of some services like Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS).