

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5810

ANSWERED ON:04.05.2005

FOREIGN COLLABORATION FOR SETTING UP R& D CENTRE FOR BROADBAND WIRELESS PRODUCT

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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT) has signed an agreement for any foreign collaboration for setting up a global research and development centre for broadband wireless product;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the terms and conditions of the agreement;
- (c) the benefits likely to be derived therefrom;
- (d) the impact on tariff and day-to-day telecom services thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

- (a) Yes, Sir. C-DOT has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with M/s Alcatel of France for setting up a global research and development centre for broadband wireless product.
- (b) As per the MoU, a global research centre on wireless technologies is to be set up. The first project in this Centre will be related to WIMAX standard based wireless technologies. Definitive agreements and possible modalities between the two organizations are being worked out.
- (c) The benefits derived from the collaboration would be to make cost effective wireless technologies required for India. It will also enable Indian telecom R&D centre C-DOT becoming a global player in one of the most cutting edge technologies, taking the advantage of experience and skills of the international telecom organization.
- (d) WIMAX technologies are globally being recognized, as appropriate solutions for broadband applications both in rural and urban areas, providing information, entertainment, e-governance facilities and high speed internet. This would help in faster roll out of services in a cost-effective manner benefiting both the operators as well as consumers.
- (e) Government has announced broadband policy which includes liberalized use of spectrum for wireless technologies for their mass deployment.