

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5908
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2005
SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGY PARKS
Shaheen Shri Abdul Rashid

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

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- (a) whether the Software Technology Parks (STP) Scheme was launched primarily to boost software/hardware export and the export of professional services using data communication links;
- (b) if so, whether it has come to the notice of the Government that this scheme has failed in many States;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether lack of proper monitoring by the Department has provided opportunity to the defaulter units to misuse provisions of the Exim Policy; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken to tighten control and exercise stricter vigilance over STPs?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

- (a): Yes, Sir. Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) was established in June, 1991 as an autonomous society under administrative control of Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology to promote development of IT software and software Services. STPI provides statutory services to the registered units under STP/EHTP Scheme, data communication services and promote Small and Medium Entrepreneurs by creating a conducive environment.
- (b) and (c): Software exports by the STP units has grown from Rs. 116 Crores in 1993-94 to Rs.68,371 Crores (tentative) in 2004-05. The State wise Exports made by STP member units is detailed in Annexure. A total 44 number of STPI Centres including High Speed Data Communication facility have been established across the country.
- (d) and (e): STP/EHTP units are being monitored as per the Exim Policy provisions. In case of units defaulting, necessary action is taken as per the Policy Guidelines with intimation to the concerned authorities like DGFT, Customs etc. So far some STP units have been found only to default in not meeting their export obligation. No case of any other misuse of concessions of EXIM Policy is reported.