

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:98  
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2005  
MANUFACTURE OF MOBILE HANDSETS  
Vallabhaneni Shri Balashowry

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

- (a) whether about 29 mobile phone manufacturing companies in the world would start producing handsets in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which the cost of the handsets is likely to come down;
- (d) whether the indigenous efforts for manufacturing handsets are being hampered by high intellectual property payments to the rights holders; and
- (e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this direction?

**Answer**

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

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Nokia and LG are in advance stage of producing handsets in India. Elcoteq, the contract manufacturer, have started producing handsets for various mobile handsets manufacturing companies. Flextronics is also taking steps for taking up the contract manufacturing.
- (c) The price of handsets is going down continuously. It is expected that, simple handsets in the range of Rs. 1500 - 2000/- are likely to be available shortly.
- (d) & (e): No, Sir. The price of handsets includes the cost towards intellectual property rights (IPRs) also.