

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4142

ANSWERED ON:21.12.2005

ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNATIONAL LONG DISTANCE INFRASTRUCTURE

Gadhavi Shri Pushpdan Shambhudan

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to invest around Rs. 2000 crore for the setting up of International Long Distance (ILD) infrastructure;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the estimated total outlay for its ILD-Voice and Data business; and
- (d) the present status of undersea cable that the BSNL is planning to lay between India and Singapore with approximate cost and the capacity thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. BSNL/MTNL have jointly planned to lay submarine cable between India and Singapore. The project is presently in conceptual stage. The technical feasibility and survey of the route has to be done before taking final decision. The details of the project are as under:

- (i) Initial capacity 20 Gbps.
- (ii) Ultimate capacity 320 Gbps.
- (iii) Approximate cost of the project Rs. 1800 crores.

Switches are being upgraded by BSNL for International Gateway functionality. Installation of equipment for lawful interception and monitoring is also planned.