

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:852

ANSWERED ON:24.02.2006

AGREEMENT WITH SRI LANKA TO REDUCE ILD CHARGES

Mane Smt. Nivedita;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to enter into an agreement with Sri Lanka in order to bring down the International Long Distance (ILD) charges as reported in the Times of India January 3, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the government to implement this agreement?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has entered into an agreement with Sri Lanka Telecom (SLT) for laying of approximately 323 Kms of submarine Optical Fibre Cable Between Tuticorine (Tamilnadu/India) and Mount Lavana (Sri Lanka) jointly. BSNL is implementing the agreement.