

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3901
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2006
MODERNISATION OF TELECOM SECTOR
Singh Shri Sugrib

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

- (a) whether modernization of telecommunications sector, strengthening of research facilities have been taken up;
- (b) if so, the details alongwith the estimated cost thereof; and
- (c) the funds allocated for the same?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Modernization of telecommunications sector is an ongoing process. For strengthening of the research facilities, a road map for research activities at Centre for Development of Telematics, C-DOT has been prepared to make it more market oriented. Moreover, the research projects have been re-prioritized and it has also entered into strategic alliances with leading telecom global organizations to cater to both the present and the future needs of the telecom sector in a cost effective manner.

Accordingly C-DOT is working on the following major areas of technologies:

- \$ Innovative services for business and industry.
- \$ Advanced Intelligent Networks Services
- \$ High Bit Rate Network Backbone on Fiber and Satellite.
- \$ Cell and Pocket Technologies for Voice and Data Convergence.
- \$ Wireless and Mobile Communication

In addition C-DOT has set up a joint venture with a leading French company to work on future wireless systems.

In the budget estimate for the year 2006-07, Rs. 143.7 crore has been provided for the R&D work of C-DOT.

(c) Over Rs. 66 crore has been set aside by the Government as grant in aid for C-DOT and the balance money will be generated by it internally.

The private sector is also actively involved in the various R&D projects for the telecom sector. However, the cost particulars are not maintained centrally.