

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:429

ANSWERED ON:25.08.2004

OPEN SKY POLICY

Mandlik Shri Sadashivrao Dadoba;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications and the Department of Space have rejected TRAI recommendations on an open sky policy for DTH and VSA T services;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the manner in which the Government proposes to start DTH and VSA T services in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 429 FOR 25TH AUGUST, 2004 REGARDING OPEN SKY POLICY.

(a) & (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) have submitted various recommendations to the Government on accelerating growth of Internet and Broadband in the country. These recommendations include an Open Sky Policy permitting use of any international satellite for Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSAT) and Direct-to-Home (DTH) service. The Department of Telecommunications are examining the recommendation in consultation with other concerned ministries in Government of India.

(c) DTH and VSAT services are already being provided by operators after obtaining requisite license from Government.