

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2075
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2000
IMPACT OF USE OF INTERNET
TUFANI SAROJ

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

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- (a) whether any survey has been conducted regarding the usage of internet by various organisations;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the gap between the developed and developing countries is likely to increase in use of internet; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): As per the information available from the Website of Pricewater House Coopers; World Economic Forum and Pricewaterhouse Coopers have surveyed a total of 1020 CEOs in North America, Asia, Europe and Latin America. The findings of this survey which were released during World Economic Forum 2000 meeting in Davos are as follows:-

- 1) 50% of the Global CEOs believe the Internet will widen the gap between developed and developing nations.
- 2) 38% of the CEOs are of the opposing view.
- 3) 90% of the CEOs surveyed believe that the continued growth of internet commerce depends on global standards being developed for privacy protection, security, authentication and dispute resolution. The enthusiasm for global standards was most marked in Asia and Europe.
- 4) CEOs around the world are generally bullish about their companies growth prospects over the next three years with 27% describing themselves as 'extremely optimistic' and 64% as 'somewhat optimistic'.
- 5) The CEOs are evenly divided in their opinions, 42% on each side, as to whether their governments have done 'a great deal' and a 'fair amount' or contributed only 'to some extent'. Asian 54% and North American 48% are the largest regional groups pointing to considerable activity on the part of their Government, with European and Latin American CEOs viewing their Governments as less active. Clearly Asian and North American Governments are perceived as more active.

(c) and (d): There are divergent views on this subject. However, the use of internet would benefit both developing and developed countries. Developing countries can implement the socio-economic developmental activities at a faster pace and more efficiently.