

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2093

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2001

FOREIGN INVESTMENT

GADDE RAMAMOCHAN;GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;IQBAL AHMED
SARADGI;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have sent a delegation to Europe to attract more foreign investment in Telecommunication Sector in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Telecom companies from France have expressed their interest to invest in Indian Communication Sector especially in the cellular telephone sector recently;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether the Government propose to appoint an expert committee for the speedy implementation of the proposed ventures; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. A delegation led by the Minister of Communications and comprising representatives from CII and telecom PSUs visited France, Sweden and Finland during 9-15th November 2000.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. French telecom companies expressed their interest to invest in Indian telecom sector during discussion with the Indian delegation. Their proposals, when received, will be processed in accordance with foreign direct investment policy in telecom sector.

(e) & (f): The Government has already set up Foreign Investment Implementation Authority(FIIA) for the speedy implementation of the projects. On the directions of FIIA, a Fast Track Committee has also been set up in Department of Telecommunications for looking after the implementation of telecom projects having investment of Rs. 100 crore or above.