

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:460

ANSWERED ON:28.02.2000

CORPORATISATION OF DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;MADHAVRAO SCINDIA;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any proposal is under the consideration of the Government for breaking up the Department of Telecommunications into five separate corporations to kick-start a next wave of reforms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a seminar has been taken place on managing the globalising trends organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry;
- (d) if so, the details regarding the suggestions/recommendations made therein; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto? *****

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) to (b): There is no proposal to break up the Department of Telecommunications into five separate corporations. However, in pursuance of the provisions of the New Telecom Policy-1999 to separate the policy and licensing functions from the service provision functions as a precursor to corporatisation, the Department of Telecom Services, has been created on 15th October 99 to handle the service provision functions. Contd...2/-

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(c), (d) & (e) : Confederation of Indian Industry had organised a seminar on Global Trends in the Communication Industry on 10th February 2000 at New Delhi. The Conference deliberated on several issues like provision of level playing field to the private operators vis-À-vis the incumbent, license fee structures to support the infrastructure development objectives rather than viewed to augment the exchequer, Universal Service Obligation related issues and the need of having an Empowered and Independent Regulator. These issues have been addressed under NTP 99 and the TRAI (Amendment) Ordinance 2000 promulgated recently.