

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1693
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2001
DEVELOPMENT OF SOFTWARE
A.P. JITHENDER REDDY

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been promoting development of software and communication business in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the assistance provided by the Union Government to the State for the purpose;
- (c) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to upgrade Hyderabad to A-1 status and provide it with its own International Internet Gateway; and
- (d) if so, the decision taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): Yes, Sir. In order to promote software and information technology, 2 Mega bits per second (Mbps) links were provided from Hyderabad to all the District Headquarters free of cost by the Government for a period of two years.
- (c) & (d): Yes, Sir. Upgradation of Hyderabad Node of National Internet Backbone to A-1 status with International Gateway connectivity has been approved in principle. The procurement process has been initiated.