

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4628  
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2002  
IT COOPERATION WITH ITALY  
PUTTASWAMY GOWDA

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

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(a) whether he visited Italy during the month of October, 2002;

(b) if so, the purpose of the visit; and

(c) the details of discussion held with the counterpart during the visit including the key areas on which both countries have agreed to cooperate with each other?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SANJAY PASWAN)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The main purposes of the visit were to jointly inaugurate and address the opening ceremony of SMAU 2002 Exhibition an international fair dealing with office automation and IT products and to further strengthen the bilateral cooperation and trade in IT and Telecommunications.

(c): During the visit an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in the field of Telecommunication was signed.

The discussions mainly pertained to use of ICT for better delivery of Government services, better quality of life and identification of possible joint projects. The areas for cooperation were identified as under:-

- India will give Italy the technology and Consultancy on Electronics Voting Machines and E-Governance.
- Italy will give India Information Technology and Consultancy on Smart Cards, E-Governance.