

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6412
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2003
CHANGES IN TELECOMMUNICATION POLICY
NAWAL KISHORE RAI;RAMJILAL SUMAN

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

- (a) the changes effected by the Government from time to time in its telecommunication policy of 1999;
- (b) whether these changes also include the permission of use of WLL from January 2001;
- (c) if so, to whom this permission has been given and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the permission for use of WLL has been subjected to some restrictions; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor and the possible disadvantages of its unrestricted use?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) Sir, no changes have been effected by the Government in New Telecom Policy-1999 (NTP-99).

(b) to (e) Wireless in Local Loop(WLL) was one of the preferred technologies for subscriber loop since 1995 in India. As per NTP-99 also, WLL is permitted to Basic Service Providers. After considering the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India(TRAI), Basic Service Operators were allowed to provide mobility in January 2001 to their subscribers with Wireless Access System limited within local area i.e. Short Distance Charging Area (SDCA) in which subscriber is registered. While deploying such systems, the operator has to follow the numbering plan of that SDCA and it should not be possible to authenticate and work with subscriber terminal in SDCAs other than in which it is registered. The system shall also be engineered so as to ensure that hand over of subscriber does not take place from one SDCA to another SDCA while communicating. Unrestricted use of WLL in a service area amounts to a cellular service and not envisaged in Basic Services.