

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1374
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2003
SETTING UP OF NATIONAL INTERNET EXCHANGE
ARUN KUMAR

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

- (a) whether the TRAI has submitted its report to the Government and urged for the establishment of a National Internet Exchange for fast development of Internet services in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the TRAI has also suggested to set up a Task Force at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SU THIRUNAVUKKARASAR)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): TRAI had constituted a Task Force to accelerate the growth of Internet in the country. One of the recommendations of the Task Force is to set up Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) for peering of Internet Service Providers (ISPs). This will result in saving the cost of the international bandwidth, improving the quality of service and faster access, leading to higher usage of Internet and greater penetration levels. The IXPs may initially be set up in the four metro cities, viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d): It has been decided to set up IXPs at NOIDA, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata in collaboration with the Internet Service Providers Association of India. The first IXP at NOIDA is ready to be operationalised.