

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:956
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2004
POWER GRID CORPORATION
Chinta Mohan Dr. ;Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Power Grid Corporation of India Limited proposes to expand telecom facilities to certain organizations in the country;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. has assessed the requirement of funds for these other additional services; and
- (d) if so, the quantum of funds required along with its sources?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED)

(a) & (b) : Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) has obtained Infrastructure Provider-II (IP-II) License from Department of Telecommunication in January, 2001 to provide end-to-end bandwidth and has also obtained ISP Category `A` license in May, 2003 to provide internet services. Telecom services are being provided to various customers which include several leading telecom players in private/Government sector viz. Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (VSNL), Bharti, Hutch, Daksh, Convergys, HCL Infnit, Reliance Telecom Ltd., National Informatic Centre (NIC), ERNET, etc.

(c) & (d) : Investment approval for `Establishment of Backbone Telecom Network for PGCIL` has been accorded at an estimated cost of Rs.934.23 crore with funding from the World Bank and PGCIL`s internal resources.