

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2331
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
INTERNET TELEPHONY CALL CHARGES
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some organizations have proposed to bring down internet telephony call charges to 0.50 paise a minute;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to lower Internet Telephony call charges in the country;
- (d) if so, whether this service will only be available to the users of MTNL Broadband only;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to broaden the use of Internet Telephony; and
- (g) if, so the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

- (a) While tariff for Internet Telephony Services comes under forbearance category and service providers have the flexibility to determine the tariff for the service, no such proposal has been received from any organisation.
- (b) to (e) Do not arise in view of (a) above.
- (f) & (g) It is the constant endeavor of the Government to broaden the use of Telecom services including Internet Telephony. However, no specific proposal pertaining to Internet telephony is under consideration at present.