

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1700

ANSWERED ON:10.08.2011

APPOINTMENT OF INDIANS ON KEY POSITIONS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba; Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan; Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether the Government has asked the telecom operators in India to employ only Indians in key positions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the response of the telecom operators thereto;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to formulate Employment Policy for Telecom Sector; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)

(a) to (c) Madam, Telecom Service licensee i.e. Access Services/ NLD/ ILD/ ISP were required to ensure compliance of the following conditions:

- (i) The Chief Officer in charge of technical network operations and the Chief Security Officer should be a resident Indian citizen.
- (ii) The officers/officials of the licensee companies dealing with the lawful interception of messages will be resident Indian citizens.
- (iii) The majority Directors on the Board of the Licensee company shall be Indian citizens.
- (iv) The positions of the Chairman, Managing Director, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and/or Chief Financial Officer (CFO), if held by foreign nationals, would require to be security vetted by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). Security vetting shall be required periodically on yearly basis. In case something adverse is found during the security vetting, the direction of MHA shall be binding on the licensee.

Due to security related issues, further amendments to various telecom licences have been issued in May/June 2011, which inter-alia states that the licensee shall employ only Resident, trained Indian Nationals as Chief Technical officer/s, Chief Information Security Officer, Nodal Executives for handling interception and monitoring cases and incharge of GMSC, MSC, Softswitch, Central Database, Routers, Switches, Nodes, PoPs, ILD Gateway Switches and System Administrator/s.

These amendments were issued after detailed consultation with licensees(telecom operators)

(d) No, Madam.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.