

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:342

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2011

NATIONAL TELECOM POLICY

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently formulated and announced the National Telecom Policy, 2011;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof and the manner in which the policy proposes to bring transparency in the telecom sector and give benefit to the consumers;
- (c) whether the suggestions from various stakeholders, including telecom industry were received and acted upon by the Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether under the new policy roaming charges have been dispensed with in; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the new policy is likely to be introduced and implemented?

**Answer**

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

- (a) The Draft National Telecom Policy-2011 (NTP-2011) has been announced by Hon'ble Minister of Communications & IT on 10th October 2011 and has been put in public domain for wider consultation.
- (b) The vision of Draft National Telecom Policy-2011 states ``To provide to the people of India a secure, reliable, affordable and high quality converged telecommunication services anytime, anywhere``. A copy of Draft NTP-2011 is available on the Department of Telecom Website and it incorporates and outlines various objectives and strategies for bringing in transparency and furthering the interests of users/consumers.
- (c) & (d) Wide ranging consultations were held with various stake-holders including telecom industry for the formulation of Draft NTP-2011. Four Round-Table conferences on National Broadband Plan, Licensing Framework and Spectrum Management, Issues related to Promotion of Manufacturing of Telecom Equipment in the country and with Consumer User Groups of Telecom and Consumer Forums were also held with the stakeholders. Views and suggestions so received have been taken into consideration by the Committee constituted for the purpose while finalising the draft NTP-2011. The suggestions from various stakeholders including telecom industry on draft NTP-2011 are being received. The last date for receiving suggestions/comments is 9th December 2011. The same will be analysed and taken into consideration by the Government before finalising NTP-2011.
- (e) & (f) There is a proposal in the Draft NTP-2011 to review roaming charges with the ultimate objective of removing the roaming charge across the nation. One of the objectives of the draft NTP-2011 is to achieve 'One Nation - Full Mobile Number Portability and work towards One Nation - Free Roaming'. After the receipt of feedback, and their due consideration, NTP-2011 would be approved by the competent authority. Implementation would commence thereafter.