

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:301
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2012
EFFECT OF RADIATION
Kumar Shri Shailendra

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up an expert Panel to chart out a time-bound action plan for study of the impact of radiation emanating from cell phone towers on human health and ecology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the composition of the panel;
- (c) whether the Prime Minister has given any direction in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the time by which the panel is likely to be set up and report likely to be submitted thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Department is constituting an Expert Panel to develop terms of reference for mounting a Nation-wide campaign to study the consequences of radiation from cell phone towers on human health and ecology in a time-bound manner. The expert panel will consist of former Director General, Indian Council Medical Research (ICMR); Director, IIT-Madras at Chennai; Director, Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (IITR), Lucknow and include members from Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ministry of Science and Technology and Department of Health Research.

(c) The Hon'ble Prime Minister has instructed Secretary, DST to look into the issue and report to Prime Minister's Office. Department of Science and Technology held an Expert Group meeting on July 3, 2012 and reported to PMO, as directed.

(d) The Expert Panel has been constituted for drawing up Frame of Reference for calling for Request for Proposals. Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) has approved the proposal for calling for Request for Proposals, for undertaking scientific studies. Department proposes to bring out status reports once in two months.