

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6878  
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2013  
FDI IN TOWER COMPANIES  
Bajwa Shri Partap Singh

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

- (a) whether a final decision has been taken on the recommendation of TRAI to bring the telecom tower companies (IP-1) under licencing regime for Unified Access Service Licence;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to change the current FDI regime for the mobile tower operator business;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes any steps to introduce more players in the market so as to increase the competition in the telecom sector; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

**Answer**

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

- (a) & (b) Madam, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) recommendations dated 16.04.2012 on "Guidelines for Unified License/Class License and migration of Existing Licenses" has been considered by the Government and the decision regarding inclusion of Infrastructure Provider Category-I (IP-I) in Unified License has been deferred for further consideration.
- (c) & (d) Presently, there is no proposal to change the current FDI regime for the Infrastructure Provider Category-I.
- (e) & (f) The Government has proposed to introduced more players in the market so as to increase the competition in telephony sector by conducting regular auction of spectrum. For this, two auctions have already been held in November 2012 and March, 2013.