

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3687
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2013
INTERNATIONAL TELECOM REGULATIONS
Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala

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

- (a) whether the global review of the International Telecom Regulations (ITR) is underway;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its likely impact on Indian mobile and internet users;
- (c) the present status of the review; and
- (d) the India's stand thereon?

Answer

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

(a) The global review of International Telecom Regulations (ITRs) were reviewed in the World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT-12) at Dubai during 3-14 December, 2012.

(b) The ITRs will come into force on 1st January, 2015 and India has not signed the ITRs as per the details mentioned in Item (d) below. Further the ITRs only deal with international telecommunication and they don't deal with internet. With regard to mobile users, there are provisions in ITRs that operating agencies provide free of charge, transparent information to end users on international telecommunication services including international roaming prices and the associated relevant conditions in a timely manner. There are also provisions to promote competition in international roaming services and prices with satisfactory quality.

(c) The review of ITRs was completed on 14.12.2012 during WCIT-12 at Dubai.

(d) India did not sign the ITRs, however made the following statement.

"India supports the proposed ITRs and the Resolutions 1,2,4 and 5. We support the broad thrust of Resolution plenary 3 regarding an enabling environment for the greater growth of the Internet, particularly its recognition of the multi-stakeholder nature of the Internet and its wider social and economic impact within and across countries around the world. India considers that this resolution should reflect the current and emerging global realities and the dynamics of the Internet.

We need to consider the wider ramifications of this Resolution before taking a decision on signing of the ITRs. We would therefore like to undertake necessary consultations at home before announcing our final decision.'

Post WCIT-12, no new consultations have taken place, and hence there is no change in the government's stand so far on ITRs.