

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3903
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2013
REDUCTION OF CST ON ELECTRONIC ITEMS
Tagore Shri Manicka

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

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- (a) Whether the Union Government has requested all State Governments/UTs to reduce Central Sales Tax (CST) on mobile phones, laptop and other electronic items to increase sales;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the State Governments thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)

(a), (b) and (c) : Hon'ble Minister of Communications and Information Technology has recently written a letter to the State Finance Ministers requesting that the Empowered Committee of the State Finance Ministers may consider the proposal to declare mobile phones and tablets as goods of special importance under the CST Act of 1956. Goods of special importance presently attract a maximum of 5% VAT. Acknowledgement has been received from a few States. States of Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir have suggested discussion regarding the matter in the meeting of Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers.