

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:596

ANSWERED ON:07.08.2013

INFRASTRUCTURE STATUS TO TELECOM SECTOR

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba; Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan; Yadav Shri Dharmendra; Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

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

(a) whether the telecom players have been facing problem in getting easy bank financing and overseas funding;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to give infrastructure status to telecom sector; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Telecom players had made representations for relaxing of External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) guidelines during 2G spectrum auction. Reserve Bank of India has already relaxed ECB norms for the successful bidders of 2G spectrum re-auction.

(c) & (d) Government vide its Gazette Notification dated 1st April 2013 has updated the harmonized Master List of Infrastructure sub-sectors and added inter-alia 'Telecommunication and Telecom Services' in the list. Accordingly, Reserve Bank of India has also issued Notification on 28th June 2013 updating the list of sub-sectors for infrastructure lending by Banks and select All India Term-Lending and Refinancing Institutions.