

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5886
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2015
COLLABORATION IN IT AND TELECOM
Verma Shri Rajesh

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

- (a) whether in view of the huge consumer market and business potential a large number of foreign delegates visited India for cooperation in the field of Telecom and Information Technology;
- (b) if so, the details of countries which are extending cooperation and FDI for developing high speed and advanced technology in the field of information and telecom services particularly in rural areas; and
- (c) the progress made in this regard so far?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

- (a) Madam, the delegation from 9 countries and European Union (EU) visited India during last one year to discuss cooperation in the field of Telecom and Information Technology.
- (b) & (c) No specific agreement has been signed for extending cooperation and FDI for development of telecommunication in rural areas during last one year. However, total FDI in telecom during 2014-15 (upto January 2015) is about Rs.170 billion (US \$ 2.83 billion) part of which could be used for development of telecommunications in rural areas also.