

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4111
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2014
DOT BHARAT DOMAIN
Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently launched the Dot Bharat Domain;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including its salient features;
- (c) whether the services of the domain are available in all the local languages in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a): Dot (.) bharat domain names in Devanagari script was launched on 27th August 2014.

(b): Launch of dot(.) bharat in Indian languages will help the non English speaking population in rural and remote areas to type the website address in local languages and access the local language content in the respective language. This is expected to enhance the reach and relevance of Internet among the Indian population and spur the growth of content creation in multiple Indian languages.

(c) and (d): Currently domain names are available in 8 languages namely Hindi, Boro, Dogri, Konkani, Maithili, Marathi, Nepali and Sindhi- Devanagari

National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) is in the process of launching .Bharat in other Indian Languages namely Gujarati, Punjabi, Bengali, Manipuri, Tamil, Urdu and Telugu.

(e): The Government of India with Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) and NIXI are in the process for applying in the "ICANN ccTLD fast track process", which is responsible for Internationalised Domain Name (IDN) for completing the string delegation process for the remaining languages.