

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 402
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12th DECEMBER, 2018**

NATIONAL DIGITAL COMMUNICATION POLICY

402. SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:
SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:
SHRI B.VINOD KUMAR:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether regulatory barriers and regulatory burdens hampered the investment, innovation and consumer interest in telecom sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has notified the National Digital Communications Policy, 2018 for improvement in the regulatory framework for attracting investment and ensuring fair competition, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the aforesaid policy proposes to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and related acts including restructuring of the legal, licensing and regulatory framework;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by when the aforesaid amendment is likely to be made;
- (f) the other major features of the policy; and
- (g) the time by which new policy is likely to be implemented?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)**

(a) to (g) After approval of the Union Cabinet, the National Digital Communications Policy 2018 (NDCP 2018) was notified on 22 October 2018 with a vision to support India's

transition to a digitally empowered economy and society. Regulatory reform is not a one-off effort, but a dynamic, long-term and multidisciplinary process. The Policy accordingly, recognises the importance of continued improvement in the regulatory framework for attracting investments and ensuring fair competition, to serve the needs of Indian citizens and aims at:

- Attracting long-term, high quality and sustainable investments
- Pursuing regulatory reforms to ensure that the regulatory structures and processes remain relevant, transparent, accountable and forward-looking.

Amending the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and other relevant Acts for the purpose of convergence and restructuring of legal, licensing and regulatory frameworks for reaping the benefits of convergence have been envisaged in the Policy for enabling Infrastructure Convergence of IT (Information Technology), telecom and broadcasting.

The key objectives of the NDCP 2018 are:

1. Provisioning of Broadband for all
2. Creating 4 Million additional jobs in the Digital Communications sector
3. Enhancing the contribution of the Digital Communications sector to 8% of India's GDP from ~ 6% in 2017
4. Propelling India to the Top 50 Nations in the ICT (Information and Communication Technology) Development Index of ITU (International Telecommunication Union) from 134 in 2017
5. Enhancing India's contribution to Global Value Chains
6. Ensuring Digital Sovereignty.
- 7.

The NDCP 2018 objectives and goals are to be achieved by year 2022.
