

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4130
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH MARCH, 2020**

FOREIGN NATIONALS AS CEOs

4130. SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the process laid down by the Government allowing foreign nationals to be Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of sensitive telecom and Information Technology (IT) related organisation/companies;
- (b) whether the private Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) in the country are headed by foreign nationals and if so, the details thereof along with the names of such CEOs; and
- (c) whether the Ministry of Home Affairs is involved in scrutinizing the credentials of aforementioned CEOs before giving them final clearance for such appointments?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS,
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)**

- (a) Security Clearance to foreign personnel at the position of Chairman, Managing Director, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and/or Chief Financial Officer (CFO), is governed as per the provisions under Clause No. 39.23(vii) of Chapter VI of License Agreement for Unified License, which reads as below:

“The positions of the Chairman, Managing Director, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and/or Chief Financial Officer (CFO), if held by foreign nationals, would require to be security vetted by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). Security vetting shall be required periodically on yearly basis. In case something adverse is found during the security vetting, the direction of MHA shall be binding on the Licensee.”

Accordingly the Telecom Service Provider concerned applies to the Department of Telecommunications which is forwarded to Ministry of Home Affairs. Ministry of Home Affairs convey the security clearance to the Department of Telecommunications after scrutinizing the credentials of such persons.

- (b) Yes Sir. The details of such foreign nationals and the service providers are as below:

S No.	Name	Nationality	Service Provider	Post held
1	Mr. Richard Jacowleff	USA	MNP Interconnection Telecom Solutions Pvt. Ltd	Chairman Nominee on the Board of Company

S No.	Name	Nationality	Service Provider	Post held
2	Mr. Ravinder Takkar	USA	Vodafone Idea Ltd.	Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director
3	Mr. Vinod Anandkumar Kumar	Singapore	Tata Communications Limited	Managing Director and Group Chief Executive Officer

(c) Yes Sir. Department of Telecommunications grants the approval based on security clearance from Ministry of Home Affairs.
