

**Internet connections in Leh**

3871. SHRI KUSHOK THIKSEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Internet Connections in Leh District is pathetically slow; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Laddakh has developed into prime tourist destination earning huge foreign exchange revenue to the nation and facilities like Internet connection would enhance the flow of tourist to this remote Himalayan region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) :

(a) No, Sir. However, on some occasions traffic congestions in the network may result in slow access.

(b) Laddakh is an important tourist centre both for domestic and foreign tourist. Improved telecommunications facilities like Internet connection will be helpful in development and promotion of tourism in this area.

**Investment in Telecommunications**

†3872. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is trying to find out big capitalists for foreign investments to bring about a revolution in the field of telecommunications;

(b) if so, whether Government are serious about making a communication revolution in the country;

(c) if so, whether World Bank and other foreign investors are ready to invest in this sector; and

(d) if so, whether Government have any concrete proposal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) India is trying to attract foreign investments in telecom sector in accordance with the Foreign Direct Investment Guidelines.

(b) Yes, Sir.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.