

**FDI in Telecom Sector**

103. SHRI M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to hike Foreign Direct Investment in the Telecom Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have prepared any broad parameters for such investment;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal to hike Foreign Direct Investment limits in telecom sector from 49% to 74% was announced to the Budget 2004-05

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) Preparation of parameters for such investment is subject to consultations with concerned Ministries and Departments.

**Special package to telecom industry**

104. SHRI M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to award a special package to help the telecom industry in the country to the tune of Rs. 960 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of benefits that are likely to accrue to MTNL, BSNL and other private telecom operators; and

(d) the steps taken to implement the package?