

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1128

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2003

USE OF MOBILE BY MILITANTS

ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;CHARAN DAS MAHANT;DALPAT SINGH PARASTE;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a decision of the Union Government to allow limited mobile phone availability in J&K has promoted militant groups as reported in the Statesman dated 2.9.2003;
- (b) if so, whether Jaish-e-Mohammed and other militant groups active in the valley, have established their base through mobile phones; and
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government on such activities of militant groups?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D.SWAMI)

(a) to (c): No report of mobile phones in J&K being passed into the hands of terrorists has come to notice.

A number of security conditions have been incorporated by Department of Telecommunications in the Licence Agreement for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) in consultation with the Security Agencies and Ministry of Home Affairs. The CMTS Licensees are required to obtain application and supporting documents from their prospective subscribers before providing them with the Service, inter-alia, to ascertain the identity of the subscribers. The Licensees are also required to forward a list of all their subscribers to the Security Agencies on monthly basis.

The above arrangement enables the Security Agencies to keep a check on the misuse of mobile phones.