

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2338

ANSWERED ON:09.08.2010

HACKING OF CONFIDENTIAL DATA

Bajwa Shri Partap Singh;Muttamwar Shri Vilas Baburao;Panda Shri Prabodh;Tarai Shri Bibhu Prasad

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the incidents of hacking of confidential data of India Embassy by Foreign Countries have been reported in Hie country;
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry of Home Affairs have advised to be extra-cautious while hiring / taking assistance in Communication Sector from Foreign Telecom companies:
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the number of SIM cards received from foreign country and sold out in India during the last three years and the current year;
- (e) the reasons for allowing uninterrupted entry of foreign SIM cards, in India by the Government.
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRISACHIN PILOT)

- (a): There have been attempts from time to time to penetrate systems installed at Indian Embassies.
- (b) and (c): Department Security guidelines are issued from time to time by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) for protection of Information & Communication Technology and information contained therein. In addition, The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) also regularly issues advisories, vulnerability notes and guidelines for securing the infrastructure. Such advisories, vulnerability notes and guidelines are sent to all Government Departments including the Ministry of External Affairs for implementation by their organizations.
- (d) to (f): Import of SIM card manufactured in foreign country is allowed under Open General License (OGL) as per Export & Import Policy. No inventory is maintained in this regard.