

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:379
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2010
UPGRADATION OF TELECOM NETWORK
Abdulrahman Shri ;Elangovan Shri T.K.S.

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

- (a) whether the Government has directed all mobile service providers to upgrade their networks to help security agencies to intercept communications on Blackberry devices in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of mobile service providers who have complied with the directions of the Government;
- (c) whether some mobile service providers have not complied with the directions of the Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof during the current year; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES AND COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 379 FOR 6TH DECEMBER, 2010 REGARDING "UPGRADATION OF TELECOM NETWORK"

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Government has directed all mobile service providers to upgrade their technical capability for Lawful Interception facilities of blackberry services. Following mobile service providers have confirmed that they have upgraded their system as per solution provided by Research In Motion (RIM), owner of blackberry technology:-

- (i) M/s Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) (ii) M/s Bharti Airtel Limited (iii) M/s Vodafone Essar Limited (iv) M/s Idea Cellular Limited
- (v) Reliance Communications Ltd. (vi) M/s Tata Teleservices Limited (vii) M/s Aircel Ltd./Dishnet Wireless Ltd./Aircel Cellular Limited
- (viii) M/s Sistem Shyam TeleServices Limited (ix) M/s Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL).

However, demonstration of Lawful Interception Monitoring facilities of blackberry services conducted by security agencies in respect of some service providers has not been found to be satisfactory.

Some mobile service providers as given below have intimated that they are not providing blackberry services.

- (i) M/s Unitech Wireless (Tamil Nadu) Private Ltd. and other Unitech Telecom Companies
- (ii) M/s Videocon Telecommunications Limited (iii) M/s S-Tel (iv) M/s Loop Mobile (India) Limited (v) M/s Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.

(c) Nil.

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

(e) The Government is in dialogue with service providers and Research in Motion (RIM) to find out a solution for interception and monitoring of such services.