

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:968

ANSWERED ON:15.11.2010

BLACKBERRY PHONE SERVICES

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to discontinue Blackberry services in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the number of connections provided by various mobile companies during the last three years and the current year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

- (a) Blackberry services have not been banned so far.
- (b) & (c) Security Agencies can intercept and monitor voice, SMS and individual customer email. However, Government is engaged with Research in Motion (RIM), the provider of Blackberry phone services to find out a solution to the interception and monitoring of messenger chat and enterprise email using Blackberry phone.
- (d) The number of connections provided by various mobile companies during the last three years and current year are as under:-

Years 2007-08 2008-09 2009-10 2010-11 (as on
30.09.2010)

Number of 95985312 130681602 192562833 103395675
connections