GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1736
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2011
CLONING OF MOBILE NUMBER
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of mobile cloning has been reported in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the cases reported during the last three years and the current year, year-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard alongwith the measures taken for the prevention of mobile cloning in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)

(a) Yes, Madam,

(b) The details of the cases reported during the last three years and the current year is depicted as under:

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Sl.No. Year  Cases reported




1 2008-09  8500




2 2009-10  2129




3 2010-11  1903




4 2011-12  25
 (till
 date)
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(c) Cloning of subscriber identity is difficult due to elaborate authentication and encryption mechanism used in mobile network. It is also very difficult at present to identify the person who has cloned the mobile. However, Telecom Enforcement Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cells (field units of DoT) are monitoring such type of complaints. TERM Cells have been entrusted various works including license compliance and security related matters like Customer Acquisition Form (CAF) Audit, Monitoring of the Electro Magnetic Field (EMF) radiation form mobile towers, Check over clandestine/illegal operation, Inspection of all licensed TSPs, Service Testing for roll-Out obligation, Investigation of MoC PG complaints regarding illegal routing, Registration of Other Service Providers (OSPs) in Licensed Service Areas etc. Term Cells along with related setup in DoT are being appropriately strengthened so that they can address such type of issues along with other security related concerns in a timely and effective manner.