

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5309
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2011
SERVICE PROVIDER
Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is mandatory for a service provider to act on the orders issued by a competent authority regarding tapping of phones;
- (b) if so, who is the competent authority in this regard;
- (c) whether a service provider can refuse to intercept or delay it for verification; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a): Yes Madam.
- (b): As per Rule 419-A of the Indian Telegraph Rules 1951, as amended from time to time, Union Home Secretary in the Government of India and the State Home Secretary at the State level are the competent authorities.
- (c) to (d): No Madam, if the orders/directions for interception are issued by a competent authority.