

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2072

ANSWERED ON:12.08.2011

PROBE ON SPYING

Bais Shri Ramesh;Mohan Shri P. C.;Naik Shri Shripad Yesso;Pandurang Shri Munde Gopinathrao

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Finance Minister has been spied upon;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any probe in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE(SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) to (d): Security audits are periodically conducted in the Ministry of Finance and the Finance Minister's Office. One such routine security check was conducted on 4th September, 2010 by the Investigation Directorate of the CBDT, which engaged the services of an expert with domain knowledge of the subject. During this check, adhesive like substance was noticed at various locations. -This was brought to the notice of the Prime Minister by the Union Finance Minister in September, 2010. The Prime Minister directed the Intelligence Bureau to conduct a secret enquiry into the matter. The Intelligence Bureau carried out an inspection of the relevant premises. Adhesive patches were found stuck at a few places. The adhesive patches were subjected to chemical/forensic analysis, which revealed that the substance contained contents comparable with the contents of Chewing gum. Physical examination of the recovered substance did not reveal any sign or mark suggestive of any device having been attached thereto. Thereafter, all these premises have been subjected to regular screening. During these exercises, no devices have been detected.