

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1456

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2011

LAWFUL ACCESS TO SERVICES

Argal Shri Ashok;Mithlesh Shri ;Venugopal Shri P.

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

(a) whether the services of some of the telecom service providers including Blackberry pose security threat as they do not allow complete lawful access to security agencies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Madam, the security agencies are able to access the telecom services including Blackberry through the lawful interception and Monitoring facilities provided by the Telecom Service Provider. However, Security Agencies have intimated that they are not able to decrypt some of encrypted intercepted communication to a readable format.

A technical committee established by the Government analysed all these issues in order to work out an appropriate solution to the problem which balances the requirements of Security Agencies with the secured communication needs of trade, commerce and industry. The complexities involved in the issue resulted in the committee being unable to come out with unanimous conclusive recommendations. Therefore the report of the committee and the comments of some of the members on the Report were referred to a high level panel of experts who have since submitted their final recommendations on a focused and practical approach to the entire issue which has been forwarded to Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) which are being examined by Ministry of Home Affairs(MHA).