

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4537
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2011
UNREGISTERED SATELLITE TELEPHONES
Bajwa Shri Partap Singh

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any reports on the use of illegal and unregistered satellite telephones in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is equipped to restrict the use of such satellite phones;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether there is any proposal for jamming these devices to check threat to internal security; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a)to(c): Yes Madam, Instances have come to the notice regarding use of satellite phones without due approvals. Action on these cases has been initiated by Ministry of Home Affairs.

Further, the Central Board of Excise and Customs, Ministry of Finance has issued a circular no. 520/22/2010-Cus.VI dated 24th Sept, 2010 whereby arriving passengers importing satellite phones as baggage are required to declare the same to the Customs on arrival.

(d)&(e): Being operational matters of counter intelligence and counter terrorism, Ministry of Home Affairs has offered no comments on the issue.