

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:145

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2009

ILLEGAL ROUTING OF INTERNATIONAL CALLS

Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Ganeshamurthi Shri A.

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

- (a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has taken any measures to control the illegal routing of international calls through local lines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the revenue loss due to the illegal routing of international calls through local lines during the last three years and the current year;
- (d) the details of the firms/companies which indulged in the illegal routing during the said period, company-wise and year-wise;
- (e) whether the Government has taken any action in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 145 FOR 30TH NOVEMBER, 2009 ON ILLEGAL ROUTING OF INTERNATIONAL CALLS.

(a)&(b) Sir, BSNL has issued detailed instructions for its various field units to control illegal routing of international calls through local lines like :

Periodical monitoring of incoming traffic to BSNL from private operators.

Prevention of unauthorized diversion in routing of ILD (International Long Distance) calls.

Prevention of operation of clandestine/illegal telecommunications centers/telephone exchanges.

(c) The details of the notional revenue loss to BSNL due to illegal routing of international calls through local lines during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and category-wise are given below:

Year	Total notional loss for each category			
	Total (Rs)			
	ILL/	ISP/IPLC/ISDN	Broad Band	VSAT

2006-07	11,96,20,000	1,05,98,400	NIL	13,02,18,400
2007-08	NIL	6,92,35,000	NIL	6,92,35,000
2008-09	54,81,000	NIL	NIL	54,81,000
2009-10	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

(d) The details on number of firms/companies/individuals which indulged in the illegal routing during the last three years and the current year are as follows :

Year	firms/	companies	Category of Connectivity Used			
			ILL/	ISP/IPLC/ISDN	Broad Band	VSAT

2006-07	46	42	4	NIL
2007-08	4	NIL	4	NIL
2008-09	1	1	NIL	NIL
2009-10	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

Details of the companies and individuals are given in the Annexure.

(e) & (f) Action taken by the Government is mentioned below:

34 Telecom Enforcement, Resource & Monitoring Cells (formerly Vigilance Telecom Monitoring (VTM) Cells) have been created under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) in various Licensed Telecom Service Areas and Major Telecom Districts of the country. Term Cells, with the help of law enforcement agencies, constantly endeavour to check illegal routing of international calls, with a view to curb illegal telephone exchange set up.

Equipments used in the illegal set up are seized by law enforcement agencies and cases have been registered against offenders. Further action is taken by the agencies.

Toll free public number 1800-110-420 has been opened, so that general public can help the department, in detection of set ups for illegal routing of international calls through local lines. Advertisements are given in the media and SMS are sent by mobile phone service operators to create awareness among public.

Department of Telecom has issued instructions and guidelines to all licensed service providers for effective monitoring, detection and prevention of such illegal routing.

Periodic interactions are made among the senior officers for better awareness regarding prevention of such illegal set ups.