

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:579
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009
CHECK ON SOFTWARE PIRACY
Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

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

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- (a) whether the pirated software has a major share in the total software business of the country,
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken/being taken by the Government to check software piracy in the country ;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring a new law to check software piracy in the country ; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

(a): There is no official estimate available to indicate the extent of software piracy and losses due to such piracy in India. However, it is believed that piracy in software industry exists as in other copyright based industry.

(b): For checking piracy effectively, certain major amendments in the copyright Act were carried out in the year 1994. These amendment provide for simplification of certain concepts and rights, enhancement of penal provisions and collective administration. The Government has also set up a Copyright Enforcement Advisory Council, including representatives of leading copyright agencies and organizations, to review the progress of enforcement of the Copyright Act periodically and advise the Government regarding measures on policy and implementation for improving the enforcement of the Act. Government agencies, NASSCOM officials, police and various other law enforcement agencies are committed to enforce copyright laws and eradicate the menace of software piracy. Further, instructions have been issued to various Government Departments to only use legal copies of software.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.