

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3151
ANSWERED ON:11.02.2014
E MAIL ACCOUNTS REGISTERED ABROAD
Rao Shri Nama Nageswara

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Home Ministry and various security agencies had expressed concern over the content of e-mails of those accounts which are registered abroad;
- (b) if so, whether the Home Ministry has asked the Department of Information Technology (DIT) to provide access of e-mails of such accounts;
- (c) if so, the response of the DIT in this regard; and
- (d) if not, the other steps the Government proposes to take to get information of such accounts?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N SINGH)

- (a)&(b) Whenever there is concern with the Law Enforcement Agencies or investigating agencies that an e-mail account registered abroad is participating in the criminal activities in the country, the agencies approach Department of Electronics and Information Technology in getting access to the records of the such email accounts.
- (c) On receipt of request from the Law Enforcement Agencies or investigating agencies, the Department of Electronics and Information Technology takes up the matter with the concerned Service Providers.
- (d) the Government regularly interacts with the Service Providers to address the issue and implement solution, keeping in view security, services and development needs of the country. Considering the threats due to usage of email account registered abroad, Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has issued advisories to the Ministries/ Departments in the Government to use email services being provided by the Government agencies only for official work. Government has also notified Information Technology (Intermediary guidelines) Rules, 2011 under Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000 which provide for seeking information from the intermediaries.