

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4092

ANSWERED ON:19.02.2014

CALL MONITORING CAPACITY

Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

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

- (a) whether all the telecom service providers have set up the required mechanism or replaced the technology to enable the Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) to lawfully intercept the telecommunication;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the details of such companies;
- (c) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has not augmented its legacy switches with modern switches whereas the BSNL was supposed to provide modern switches with a capacity to simultaneously monitor 5000 calls;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;and
- (e) the action taken by the Government to augment the call monitoring capacity of BSNL?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Madam, the Government has mandated all the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) through respective license agreement to extend the facility of lawful interception and monitoring to the designated Law Enforcement Agencies, which are followed by all TSPs. Based on the requirement of Law Enforcement Agencies, interception related issues are examined on regular basis and necessary instructions are issued to the Telecom Service Providers as and when required.

(c) to (e) The Telecom Service Providers including Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) were mandated to provide the provisioning capacity of 1500 targets in International Long Distance (ILD) gateway switches, which were duly complied by BSNL. Based on the requirement of the Law Enforcement Agencies, Department of Telecommunications subsequently mandated to increase the target provisioning capacity to 5000 in these switches. BSNL found it difficult to augment the capacity to 5000 target provisioning in its legacy switches. However, BSNL has planned to augment its network capacity by way of replacing existing legacy switches with New Generation Network (NGN) switches in a phased manner where this requirement of Law Enforcement Agencies can be met.