

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2837
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2014
ALLEGED SNOOPING BY AMERICAN AGENCIES
Rao Shri Rayapati Sambasiva

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of enquiry regarding the alleged snooping by American agencies;
- (b) whether this issue was taken up during the recent visit by our Prime Minister to US;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any policy has been laid down by the Government after this incident and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the measures in place to keep a check on such incidents?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) to (c) Government has raised its concerns with the US side, including at senior levels, on the reported authorisation given to entities of the US Government to intrude upon the privacy of communications of the Indian Government, its citizens, and Indian entities. The US has noted that it fully respects and understands the feelings expressed by India in this regard. The US has also conveyed that the US President Barack Obama has ordered a unique and unprecedented review of the US intelligence gathering and related activities.

(d) & (e) Government is working to enhance its capacity to protect data and information flows by building better cyber and telephony infrastructure and by evolving new cyber and telecom security practices.