

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5903  
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2015  
FAKE MOBILE SIM CARDS  
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**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether thousands of fake SIM cards have been seized in various States of the country particularly in Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof and the action taken by the Government against the persons/companies supplying and selling fake sim cards/sim cards on bogus documents; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to check the misuse of such sim cards which is a serious security concern to the nation?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b) Madam, SIM cards have been seized in different Licensed Service Areas (LSAs) issued on fake documents.

The details of the SIMs seized in different LSAs reported during the last year (2014) and current year (up to 31.03.2015) are as follows:

- i. In Himachal Pradesh, a total of 13 SIMs were seized which were issued on fake documents.
- ii. In Andhra Pradesh LSA, at Hyderabad, a total of 2639 SIMs were seized which were issued on fake documents.
- iii. In Jammu and Kashmir, a total of 200 SIMs were seized which were issued on fake documents.

Apart from above cases, three arrests (two retailers and one distributor) were made by Trombay Police in Mumbai and case has been registered against them for activating and selling SIMs on fake/forged documents in the month of February 2015.

Action has been taken for the seized SIMs where details have been provided by police authorities to Telecom Enforcement, Resource & Monitoring (TERM) Cells, by getting the SIMs disconnected by concerned Telecom Service Providers (TSPs). Police complaints /FIRs have been lodged for these cases. TERM Cells of these LSAs have also imposed financial penalty on defaulting TSPs for such connections as per the existing scheme of financial penalty of Department of Telecommunications (DoT).

(c) Department of Telecommunications (DoT) in consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has issued comprehensive guidelines and norms for mobile subscriber verification by Telecom Service Providers vide its letter No. 800-09/2010-VAS dated 09.08.2012. These guidelines are in vogue since 09.11.2012.

These guidelines have detailed provisions for lodging of FIR/ Complaint in case of SIMs issued on fake documents including disconnection, apart from imposition of applicable financial penalties against defaulting Telecom Service Providers.