GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:399
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2015
Interception of Telephone and DataCommunications

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

- (a) whether there are allegations of illegal phone tapping from different parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;
- (c) whether the Government is working on a new regulatory framework for lawful interception of and monitoring of telephone calls, messages, voice and data communication while safeguarding the individual users and privacy;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether there are differences of opinion between Ministry of Home Affairs and his Ministry in this regard and if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to resolve the difference?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) Madam, recently, a few cases have been registered in different Police Stations in Andhra Pradesh relating to allegations of illegal phone tapping. All these cases are under investigation at present.
- (c) & (d) The present regime appears to be adequate and currently there is no proposal to bring out any new regulatory framework for lawful interception of and monitoring of telephone calls, messages, voice and data communication.

There is no difference of opinion between the Ministry of Home Affairs & the Department of Telecommunications in this matter.