

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:461  
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2014  
INTERNATIONAL CALL ROUTING RACKET  
Dubey Shri Nishikant

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

- (a) whether the illegal international telephone call routing racket has been reported recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of cases unearthed during the last three years and the current year including the modus-operandi thereof;
- (c) whether any action has been taken against the persons responsible for these illegal activities and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the estimated loss to the exchequer due to illegal routing of international calls during the said period; and
- (e) the action taken/being taken by the Telecom Enforcement, Resource and Monitoring Cells/Government to check the illegal routing of national/international calls?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 461 FOR 11TH AUGUST, 2014 REGARDING "INTERNATIONAL CALL ROUTING RACKET"

(a) to (d) Madam, a few cases of illegal routing of international calls have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years and the current year due to which the Government has suffered an estimated notional loss of approximately Rs. 4.45 Crores. Details of these cases with estimated notional loss and action taken like lodging of FIR with the police against the culprits, year wise, is enclosed as Annexure.

Generally, the modus operandi in such illegal international call routing cases unearthed in the Country is that the offender sets up an illegal telephone setup using high-tech equipments with Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN)/Public Land Mobile Network (PLMN) connectivity on one side and Leased Link (Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT)/International Private Leased Circuit (IPLC)/Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN)/ Internet Leased Line (ILL)) on the other side of the high tech equipment. This illegal telephone setup operates in a way that incoming international calls are received via the leased link media as data and then switched through to the Public Network (PSTN/PLMN) using local Wireless in Local Loop (WLL)/Mobiles/PSTN connectivity as local voice call.

(e) Telecom Enforcement Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cells constantly endeavor to monitor, investigate and control such illegal routing of international calls and take action against the persons involved in such illegal activities with the help of law enforcement agencies with a view to curb illegal telephone exchange set ups. Equipments used in the illegal set up are seized by law enforcement agencies and cases have been registered against the offenders. Department of Telecom has issued directions/ guidelines to all licensed Telecom Service Providers for effective monitoring, detection and prevention of such illegal routing. Interactions between TERM Cells & Telecom Service Providers are held for better awareness and effective monitoring in respect of such illegal routing/ setups.