GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4511
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2014
TELECOM SECURITY POLICY
Dhruvanarayana Shri Rangaswamy

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to bring Nationa Telecom Security Policy in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry of Home Affairs has expressed any reservations over the proposed policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Draft Telecom Security Policy has been prepared by the Department of Telecommunications to address the issues related to telecom security due to threats emanating from various sources like anti-social, anti-national, terrorist groups including hostile nations. The Salient features of the Draft Telecom Security Policy are as follows:

(i) It is based on the principles of involvement of Stakeholders, International Cooperation, Suitable Regulatory framework, technical solutions to take precedence over Regulations and adopting a Practical and Progressive approach.

(ii) It addresses the various aspects of Telecom Security like communication assistance to Security Agencies, security of Communication, Information and Data, security of Telecom Network and Disaster Management.

(iii) It envisages 'Safe to Connect' Policy which means every network element should be inducted into the network only after getting it security tested and certified from certified/authorised security testing labs.

(iv) Periodic security testing of the telecom network.

(v) Progressively develop indigenous capacity to manufacture electronic telecom equipment and software being inducted into the Network.

(c) to (e) As per the direction of Telecom Commission, the draft Telecom Security Policy was sent to National Information Board for its consideration. The National Information Board directed Department of Telecommunications to constitute an Inter-Ministerial Committee having Members from Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Defence Research and Development Organisation, Department of Electronics & Information Technology, National Security Council Secretariat and Department of Telecommunications to review the draft Telecom Security Policy. Accordingly, Department of Telecommunications has constituted the Committee and draft has been reviewed including suitable incorporation of the inputs received from Ministry of Home Affairs. The redrafted Telecom policy has also been discussed in the meeting in Ministry of Home Affairs on 22.07.2014.