

(a) whether the Central investigative agencies could not snoop into the networks provided by tele-communication agencies;

(b) whether the Department of Telecom (DoT) has asked these companies to either ensure that data going through their networks be made available to security agencies in a readable format or face a ban from offering services in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) It is mandatory for the telecom service providers to install Lawful Interception and Monitoring (LIM) system before launch of telecom services. In case of Internet Service Providers (ISPs) LIM systems are installed at Internet nodes of ISPs as per the requirements of Securities Agencies. However, security agencies are not able to obtain the interception in readable format where complex encryption is used in communication.

(b) to (d) Yes, DoT has asked Telecom Service Providers to provide technical solution for interception and monitoring of certain services provided through Blackberry devices in readable format to Law enforcement agencies. In case no solution is provided, these services may be banned by the Government.

Waiting List for BSNL Service in M.P.

†2740. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that places where mobile services are being provided in Madhya Pradesh, there is still a long waiting list and despite that people want to get BSNL service;

(b) whether the Central Government is not able to provide service due to non availability of SIM; and

(c) if so, by when SIM would be made available and waiting list would be cleared?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) No, Sir. Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) of cellular mobile connections of BSNL are available on demand in the State of Madhya Pradesh and there is no waiting list.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Penalty of Telecom Service providers

2741. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any legislation is proposed to be introduced to impose penalty on the telecom service providers' (licensees) if the equipments installed by them have spy ware or malware; and

(b) the action that has been taken on this issue in the interest of security agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) Sir, amendment were issued in December, 2009 in the Licence Agreements of all telecom service providers for security related concerns. As per these amendments, the Licensee(s) have to apply to the Licensor for security clearance, along with the details of equipment(s) as well as details of equipment(s) suppliers and manufacturers including Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM), before placement of the final purchase order for procurement/upgradation of equipment/software for provisioning of telecommunications services under the licence and that it shall also include any such activity by the franchisee, agents or person of that licensees. In addition, Licensee is required to submit a self certification with Licensor (DoT) that the equipment/ software proposed for procurement/ upgradation is free from black boxes, malware, trapdoor and remote/hidden attack through computerized command and control and adequate steps and mechanisms for adequate security against any subversive activity by company/ manufacturer/ vendors involved in the supply chain have been taken and are in place . If the Licensor/Government of India at later stage, after security audit of the above said equipment/software procured by them for use in their network for providing licensed services, finds