

Telephone tapping

1468. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of citizens whose telephones have been tapped by the authorities during the last three years and average duration/period during which they have been tapped;

(b) the nature of allegations or suspected crimes for which tapping was authorized and number of FIRs prosecutions launched exclusively on the basis of tapping;

(c) the designations of officials of Government who have been authorized tapping and service providers who were ordered to tap telephones; and

(d) the measures in place so that the authorized period is not exceeded and that tapped matter does not go in public domain?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) On an average, between 7,500 to 9,000 orders for interception of telephones are issued by the Central Government per month. Normally, the duration period does not exceed six months.

(b) Section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 permits the interception in the occurrence of any public emergency or in the interest of public safety. It would not be possible to indicate the number of FIRs launched exclusively on the basis of tapping as field investigations are also necessary to collect substantive evidence.

(c) Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs has been authorized for interception of telephones at the Central Government level. Home Secretaries of the State Governments are authorized for Interception of telephones at State level. The names of service providers are *inter-alia* as follows: (i) Aircell Cellular Ltd. (ii) Aircel Ltd. (iii) Bharat Sanchar Ltd. (iv) Bharti Airtel Limited (v) Idea Cellular Ltd. (vi) Loop Mobile (India) Ltd. (vii) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. (viii) Reliance Telecom Ltd. (ix) S. Tel Private Ltd. (x) Sistema Shyam Teleservices Ltd. (xi) Spice Communications Ltd. (xii) Tata Teleservices Ltd. (xiii) Unitech Wireless Pvt. Ltd. (xiv) Videocon Telecommunications Ltd. (xv) Vodafone Essar Cellular Ltd.

(d) The competent authority also reviews orders to ensure that the authorized period is not exceeded. There is also an Oversight Committee headed by the Cabinet Secretary to monitor the activity related to lawful interception.

Instructions are there to the agencies to ensure that the intercepted material is kept in safe custody.

Foreigners involved in illegal activities

1469. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of foreigners have been reported to be involved in illegal activities in the various parts of the country and Delhi also;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of foreigners arrested and convicted during the last two years and current year, gender-wise and nationality-wise;

(c) whether Government has any policy to verify the credentials of foreigners before granting them visa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Instances of violation of law and involvement in illegal activities by foreign nationals in various parts of the country, including Delhi have been reported. Registration of cases and action thereon comes within the purview of police stations and State Governments/Union Territory Administration concerned. Details of foreigners arrested during 2008 and 2009 under various provisions of the Foreigners' Act are given in the Annexure. Details for the year 2010 have not been compiled. Statistical data of number of foreigners arrested and convicted, gender-wise, and also the number of foreigners convicted, nationality-wise, is not Centrally maintained.

(c) and (d) Visa is granted to a foreign national by the Indian Missions/Posts abroad after due processing of the application which includes authentication of the submitted documents and local checks. In the case of certain specified countries, a system of pre-verification of the visa applications by the Ministry of Home Affairs is also in place.

Statement

Details of foreigners who were arrested

Country	2008	2009
1	2	3
Afghanistan	23	4
Angola	1	0
Argentina	1	0
Australia	2	0
Austria	2	0
Azerbaijan	1	0
Bahrain	0	1
Bangladesh	6816	5312

1	2	3
Belarus	0	1
Belgium	2	0
Brazil	1	0
Burundi	0	0
Cameroon	3	0
Canada	4	3
China	4	2
Congo	3	1
Costa Rica	0	0
Croatia	1	0
Czech Republic	1	3
Denmark	0	0
Djibouti	0	1
Dominican Republic	1	0
Eritrea	0	8
Ethiopia	0	0
Finland	1	3
France	6	7
Germany	10	9
Ghana	3	3
Guinea	0	2
Guinea Bissau	0	0
Greece	2	0
Hungary	0	1
Iran	14	15
Iraq	6	1
Ireland	0	1

1	2	3
Israel	8	1
Italy	2	7
Ivory Coast	3	2
Japan	4	2
Jordan	4	0
Kazakistan	0	0
Kenya	7	6
Korea North	0	1
Lebanon	0	0
Liberia	1	2
Lithuania	1	0
Malaysia	7	3
Maldives	1	2
Mali	0	0
Mauritius	0	1
Mexico	2	0
Morocco	1	0
Mozambique	0	2
Myanmar	50	43
Nepal	36	36
Netherlands	4	3
New Zealand	0	3
Nigeria	104	92
Norway	0	3
Oman	1	0
Pakistan	45	30
Palestine	0	1

1	2	3
Philippines	0	2
Poland	2	2
Portugal	2	0
Qatar	0	1
Russia	18	20
Rwanda	0	3
Saudi Arabia	0	1
Sierra Leone	1	0
Singapore	1	1
Somalia	1	6
South Africa	4	5
South Korea	1	0
Spain	1	3
Sri Lanka	105	63
Stateless	10	6
Sudan	3	6
Swaziland	0	1
Sweden	0	0
Switzerland	1	2
Taiwan	1	0
Tanzania	12	11
Thailand	3	13
Turkmenistan	1	1
Turkey	0	2
U.S.A.	6	5
Uganda	3	1
Ukraine	2	2

1	2	3
United Kingdom	37	14
Uzbekistan	11	3
Vietnam	1	0
Yemen	3	15
Zambia	0	0
Zimbabwe	1	0
Others	0	0
TOTAL :	7426	5807

Land acquired by BSF in Punjab

1470. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Punjab has sought compensation for the land acquired by the BSF for construction of 11 feet wide road on Indo-Pak Border;

(b) the details of the land acquired by the BSF for this purpose on the Indo-Pak border in Punjab and the number of persons affected by this acquisition; and

(c) the amount of compensation sought and the time by when the compensation sought is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) An 11 feet wide path running along the zero line with Pakistan in Punjab is generally being used by Border Security Force (BSF) for patrolling. A proposal has been received from State Government of Punjab for payment of compensation to the affected persons. In this regard, actual details are being obtained from Government of Punjab for considering the amount of compensation.

Chief Ministers meet to review internal security

1471. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chief Ministers meet to review internal security was held recently at Vigyan Bhawan, Delhi;

(b) whether the committee headed by Home Minister has come out with any formula for crowd management in States facing hostile situations without any loss of life;