Mobile sim cards obtained by using fake documents

69. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:
SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is concerned about the fact of crimes increasing very sharply by using mobile SIM card obtained by fake documents and Police Department is finding huge difficulties to trace out such criminals due to lack of correct address;

(b) what action has been taken by Central Government in this regard;

(c) what action has been taken by Ministry in coordination with Ministry of Communications and State Governments to plug this loophole; and

(d) how many crimes have been registered during last three years by using mobile SIM cards obtained by fake documents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Instances of violation of guidelines for subscriber verification by service providers including sale of SIM cards on fake POI/POA documents etc. have been reported.

(b) and (c) Licence agreement for UASL/CMTS mandates that "The licensee shall ensure adequate verification of each and every customer before enrolling him as a subscriber". Department of Telecom being the licensor of all the telecom services issues necessary instructions to service providers from time to time in this regard. TERM cells are carrying out random sample CAF verification on periodic basis and in non-compliant cases, penalty is imposed on the TSP apart from provision for subscriber disconnection. In order to deal with the issue of forged documents for obtaining mobile connections, Department of Telecom has issued directions to lodge complaints/FIR against customer/Franchisee/Service provider, under law of the land. Law enforcement agencies (LEA) *sou-moto* can also register a case/FIR under relevant provisions of CrPC/IPC etc. As per directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court, a Joint Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Telecom) having two members each from Department of Telecom and Telecom Regulatory Authority of India have been constituted to examine the proposed revised guidelines for verification of customer's identity. Report of committee is expected shortly.

(d) As per data received from Department of Telecom. 10631 complaints/ FIRs have been lodged with Police till 31.03.12 covering approx. 62820 connections. Further, as per available data, 322 franchisees where cancelled and Rs. 1809061/- was imposed as fine.