

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A private tourist boat namely 'MV Aqua Marine' carrying 48 passengers and 2 crew members on board sank near Port Blair on 26.01.2014. In all, 22 persons died while 26 passengers and 2 crew members were rescued.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The boat was reportedly overloaded. The guidelines for the safety of boat/passengers operating in the inland waters are provided under Inland Vessel Act (IV Act), 1917. A magisterial enquiry has been ordered to establish causes and violations, if any. An FIR has been registered under Section 304/34 of IPC and 04 persons were arrested.

(f) Safety audit of all tourist boats registered under Inland Vessels Act, 1917 has been ordered. Vessels are allowed to operate only after verification of their Status of registration and adherence to safety Standards.

Regulating access of Law Enforcement Agencies to Internet Monitoring

2728. DR. CHANDAN MITRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to frame Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to regulate access of law enforcement agencies to Internet Monitoring System (IMS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the fresh steps taken by Government to avoid any misuse of IMS due to lack of oversight in use of IMS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) are proposed to contain instructions regarding interception, handling, use, sharing, copying, storage and destruction of data under Internet monitoring System.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The proposed Standard Operating Procedures for IMS will aim towards strengthening the existing legal regime governing internet interception.

Regulatory framework for Television Rating Agencies

2729. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether is a fact that Government has cleared a comprehensive regulatory framework for television rating agencies that includes procedures for registration, eligibility