

USA spying through internet

961. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that every single individual is being spied upon by USA through misuse of computer and internet;

(b) if so, whether this violates the sovereignty of other countries and details in this regard; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH): (a) to (c) Government has noted reports in the media regarding the authorization given to entities of the US Government to intrude upon the privacy of communications of the Indian Government, its citizens, and Indian entities. Government has stated that if any such intrusions have indeed been authorized and have taken place, it will be highly objectionable. Concerns in this regard have been clearly expressed at senior official levels to the US Government. In doing so, India has sought an explanation of the information contained in the media reports, and an assurance that such authorizations will not be acted upon by US Government entities, as far as Indian citizens, entities and the Government of India is concerned. Government continues to raise its concerns on the issue directly and forthrightly with US interlocutors.

PSUs declared for closure by BIFR

962. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of PSUs declared sick during the last three years;

(b) the number of PSUs recommended by Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) for closure; and

(c) the number of jobs that have been lost or will be affected due to closure of those sick units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI RADHAKISHNAN P.): (a) to (c) As per