

or for preventing incitement to the commission of an offence. It is not feasible to disclose the number of phones intercepted during a particular period.

(b) and (c) Lawful interception of telephonic communication is carried out by authorized Law Enforcement/Intelligence Agencies (LEAs) of the Government in each and every case after obtaining authorization as per the provisions of Section 5(2) of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 read with Indian Telegraph Rule 419 (A). Unlawful interception is a punishable offence under section 25 and 26 of the Indian Telegraph Act 1885, with imprisonment for a term which may extend up to three years, or with fine, or with both.

Purchase of surveillance equipment and technology

2609. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is purchasing/planning to purchase surveillance equipment and technology from other countries;

(b) whether any communication has been sent to these companies or any understanding has been reached; and

(c) if so, the details thereof including the specific purpose for which the equipment and technology will be used?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) purchase surveillance equipments through Global Tender from time to time. In these Global Tenders indigenous as well as foreign firms can participate. Global Tender process include issue of Global Tender Enquiry, holding of pre Bid meeting, issue of Acceptance of Tender etc. However, there is no Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the foreign countries regarding purchase of surveillance equipment for CAPFs.

Security measures at Delhi metro stations

2610. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some metro stations in Delhi and its NCR region are unsafe for women and prone to crimes, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has worked out some action plan to ensure safety of women at such spots, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) There is no input indicating that any station of Delhi Metro is unsafe for women. However, the following steps have been taken by the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) for the safety of women commuters in the Delhi metro:

- (i) At present 831 women CISF personnel are deployed to help women commuters.
- (ii) Frisking of women passengers is done by women CISF personnel.
- (iii) CISF has deployed male and female staff at various Metro Stations for deboarding male passengers found to be travelling in coaches reserved for ladies.
- (iv) CISF has deployed female staff trained in unarmed close quarter combat, for assisting female Metro commuters.

Visa-on-Arrival project

2611. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the status of Visa-on-Arrival project;
- (b) which are the countries whose citizens coming to India are provided with this required facility; and
- (c) what is the action plan to ensure that unwanted and anti-national elements do not enjoy this facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY):(a) to (c) The Government of India has launched e-Tourist Visa (old name-Tourist Visa on arrival enabled by electronic travel authorisation) facility on 27.11.2014 with a view to facilitate foreign tourists visiting India. The scheme has been extended to following 77 countries till date:

Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Cayman Island, Chile, Cook Island, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominica Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Laos, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Montenegro, Montserrat, Myanmar, Nauru, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niue Island, Norway, Oman, Palau, Palestine, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Republic of Macedonia, Russia, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand,