

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1125
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th JULY, 2021**

ILLEGAL TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

1125 Shri Sanjay Raut:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether it is a fact that detection of cases of illegal Indian telephone exchanges have been found in various parts of the country which are earning illegally and using it for spying activities;
- (b) if so, details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and
- (c) the details of steps taken / proposed to be taken by Government to strengthen the machinery to trace and catch the culprit spontaneously?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

(a)&(b) Sir, 14 License Service Areas (LSAs) have reported instances of illegal telephone exchanges in the recent past. In all these instances First Information Report (FIR) have been lodged with the Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) apart from joint raids and busting of illegal telephone exchanges.

(c) The LEAs take legal action as per provisions of law against such illegal telephone exchanges. In addition the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has inter-alia taken the following measures:

- (i) The Field units of DoT operational in each LSA have been entrusted with the function of curbing illegal activities/illegal operation of telecom networks.
- (ii) A call centre for reporting about clandestine/illegal telecom operation has been setup on a toll free number 1963/1800110420 where the subscribers can provide the information about receipt of international calls with national Calling Line Identity (CLI).
- (iii) Awareness Short Message Service (SMS) regarding DoT call centre are regularly broadcast by all Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) to their customers.
- (iv) Information received through DoT call centre is analyzed by LSAs to detect such clandestine/illegal operation of telecom networks.
