

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1516  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2021**

**INTERCEPTION OF MESSAGES UNDER INDIAN TELEGRAPH ACT**

1516 SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether reasons are invariably recorded in writing and orders taken from the competent authorities before intercepting any message under Section 5 of the Indian Telegraph Act;
- (b) whether Government is aware of any 'unlawful learning of the contents of any message' under Section 23 of the Act;
- (c) whether Government is aware of any authorised official unlawfully intercepting any message in terms of Section 26 of the Act; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken thereof ?

ANSWER

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

(a) The orders for interception under Section 5 (2) of the Indian Telegraph Act 1885 are issued with the approval of the competent authority as per sub-rule (1) of Rule 419A of Indian Telegraph (1st Amendment of 2014) Rules, 2014. As per sub-rule (2) of these Rules, these orders contain the reasons for such direction.

(b)&(c) No Sir.

(d) In view of (b) &(c), question does not arise.

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