

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2611
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH MARCH, 2022**

PARALLEL TELEPHONE EXCHANGE IN KERALA

2611 SHRI M.V. SHREYAMS KUMAR:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government was aware of a parallel telephone exchange that was working at Kozhikode in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the background of operators of the exchange and their modus operandi;
- (c) whether Government had taken any action against the illegal exchange;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the names of people who have been booked for illegal and anti-national activities; and
- (e) whether these parallel exchanges had any contact with India's neighboring countries like China and Pakistan?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The required intelligence was provided by Kerala Police and subsequently six locations in Kozhikode were raided by Kerala Police on 1st July 2021 with the support of Kerala License Service Area (LSA) field unit of Department of Telecommunications (DoT).
- (b) Illegal telecom setups were found working at six locations in Kozhikode. These premises were having clandestine telecom setup using the Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technique for bypassing the licensed International Long Distance Operator's (ILDOS) networks and using mobile telecom networks of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) for distributing these calls to the mobile / wire line customers across India.
- (c) All equipment of clandestine telecom setups including Subscriber Identity Modules (SIM), VoIP Gateways etc. were seized by the Kerala Police. All telecom resources have been disconnected by TSPs concerned. Further, all TSPs have been instructed to monitor their network for any illegal telephone exchange activities, including the in-roaming mobile numbers for preventing the misuse.
- (d) As per the information received from the Kerala Police, two persons named Jurais P and Ibrahim Pullattil were arrested. Lookout notice has been issued against four persons named Shabeer, Abdul Gafoor, Krishnaprasad and Niyas.
- (e) The charge sheet has not yet been prepared by the Investigation officer of Kerala Police.
