

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3216
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2001
MISSING DRAFTS CHEQUES
RATNA SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the bank drafts/cheques being sent through registered post are missing
- (b) If so, the number of such complaints received during the last two years; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

- (a) There are complaints about some registered letters which also involve non-receipt of bank drafts/cheques.
- (b) In 1998-99 & 1999-2000 557 cases were reported.
- (c) The Department pays an ex-gratia compensation of Rs. 100/- to the sender of the registered letter when the loss of the article is established. As a measure of preventive vigilance and to safeguard proper handling of such articles in transit through the postal system, the following measures are adopted:-
 - i) Surprise checks by specially formed squads in identified offices to detect abstraction/losses.
 - ii) Deterrent disciplinary action against officials found responsible for irregularities.
 - iii) Posting test letters to monitor transmission route of the mails and rectify bottlenecks, if any.