

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1311  
ANSWERED ON 30.07.2003  
ILLEGAL TELEPHONE EXCHANGES  
BR SINGHAHAT/MANSUKHMAID VASAVA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether illegal telephone exchanges have been found operating in the capital;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the modus operandi thereof;
- (d) the approximate loss caused to be exchequer since their inception;
- (e) the action taken against the accused; and
- (f) the outcome thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN)

- (a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The year-wise number of cases are given in Annexure-I
- (c) The modus operandi for operating such illegal exchanges is given in Annexure-II
- (d) The estimated loss to Department of Telecom/VSNL, other International Long Distance operators as well as MTNL is given in Annexure-III
- (e) & (f) The premises of the illegal Exchanges were jointly raided with Police and their equipment were seized. FIR lodged and cases were filed in the court by Delhi Police.

**ANNEXURE-I**

Year-wise details of the cases detected during last four years

1998-99	4 Exchanges
1999-00	3 Exchanges
2000-2001	12 and 5 SPARX Exchanges
2001-2002	1 Exchanges
2002-2003	6 Exchanges

**ANNEXURE-II**

The calls were being made by using the following devices

- (i) Satellite Dish Antenna.
- (ii) Internal leased lines.
- (iii) International private leased circuits.
- (iv) Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) lines.
- (v) Installation and operation SPARXs without containing MTNL Junctions and licence.

The subscribers in foreign countries are purchasing pre-paid cards from Private Companies and after dialing toll-free number use illegal media equipment like Satellite Dish Antenna, Internal Leased Line, International Private Leased Circuits, ISDN lines which absorbs country code and sends only local digits to their counterpart in India on which PSTN lines are terminated illegally.

**ANNEXURE-III**

The estimated loss to Department of Telecom/VSNL, other International Long Distance Operators as well as MTNL

(1) Loss to Department of Telecom/VSNL : Rs. 112 Crores Approx.

(2) Loss to other Licensed International Long Distance Operators : Rs. 1 Crore Approx.

(3) Loss to MTNL, Delhi through SPARXs : Rs. 1 Crore Approx.