GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2524

TO BE ANSWERED ON: 26.12.2018

DATA ENCRYPTION

2524. SHRI MAGANTTI VENKATESWARA RAO (BABU):

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

- (a) whether there are problems regarding Data Encryption in the country as mentioned in the National Digital Communications Policy 2018; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA)

(a) and (b): Data encryption is used for the privacy of communications. Unified License conditions of Department of Telecommunications mandates that licensee shall not employ bulk encryption equipment in its network. The licensee shall have the responsibility to ensure protection of privacy of communication and to ensure that unauthorized interception of MESSAGE does not take place. Provision to address encryption related issues has been made in the National Digital Communication Policy (NDCP), 2018. The provisions in the NDCP are as follows:

Section 3(e): One of the Goals 2022 is "Address security issues relating to encryption and security clearances"

Section 3.3(e): Strategies provides as follows: "Formulating a policy on encryption and data retention, by harmonising the legal and regulatory regime in India pertaining to cryptography with global standards, as applicable to communication networks and services"
