GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3603 TO BE ANSWERED ON 2ND JANUARY, 2019

CHINESE SIGNAL BOOSTERS

†3603. SHRIMATI DARSHANA VIKRAM JARDOSH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chinese signal boosters are being purchased to improve mobile network range in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Services of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) are getting affected by such equipments and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) the number of such boosters identified/detected in the country especially in Surat, State/UT-wise and the legal action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to spread awareness regarding the disruption caused by these equipments along with the steps taken by the Government to check the illegal use thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS & MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) No information regarding purchase of signal boosters of Chinese make has been received by the Department of Telecommunications.

(b) Complaints from the Telecom Service Providers regarding interference due to unauthorized boosters installed by private entity/individuals are received from time to time. Such interference complaints by Telecom Service Providers are taken on priority by carrying out/undertaking on the spot monitoring and inspection. The unauthorized boosters so identified/detected are deactivated and notice is served to such individuals/entity.

(c) & (d) A total of 101 notices have been issued to the entities/individual users of unauthorized boosters and 63 such boosters have been confiscated/seized/deactivated. The details are as given below:

S.No.	Name of	Name of	Number	Number of unauthorised
	State	Monitoring	of notices	boosters and accessories
		Station	served	confiscated/seized/deactivated
1	Delhi	Delhi	45	16
2	Gujarat	WMS	12	19
		Ahmedabad		
		(for Surat		
		city)		
3	Maharashtra	Mumbai	8	28
4	Punjab	Jalandhar	19	Nil
5	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	14	Nil
6	Telangana	Hyderabad	3	Nil

In Surat, monitoring and inspection was carried out in June 2018 wherein 12 notices were served and 19 boosters with accessories were confiscated/seized.

It has also been found that some online/e-commerce companies are dealing with unauthorized wireless equipment including boosters. Such companies have been directed to ensure compliance to the licensing/statutory requirements on telecom equipment being sold or purchased. The directions have been placed on the website (<u>www.dot.gov.in</u>) for information.
