GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 546
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 26.07.2024

WORKING OF CERT-IN WITH OTHER AGENCIES

546. SHRI MILIND MURLI DEORA:

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

(a) the total number of cyber incidents intercepted by CERT-IN and other agencies such as National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO) over the last five years targeting country’s citizens and critical infrastructure such as Air Traffic Controls (ATCs), Electricity Grids, hydroelectric dams, details thereof;

(b) steps undertaken to increase interoperability of CERTI-IN with other agencies such as NTRO of India tackling issues of cyber security and cyber attacks on the country, details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has considered introducing any policy to increase interoperability between CERT-IN and other agencies such as NTRO, if so, details thereof, if not, the reasons therefore?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (c): The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In)is notified by the Central Government under section 70B of the Information Technology Act, 2000 to serve as the national agency for incident response.As per the Information Technology Act 2000, Critical Information Infrastructure (CII) means the computer resource, the incapacitation or destruction of which, shall have debilitating impact on national security, economy, public health or safety.

CERT-In has operationalized National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC) to generate necessary situational awareness of existing and potential cyber security threats. The Centre provides a structured system and facilitates coordination among different stakeholder agencies, including *National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre* (*NCIIPC*), by sharing with them macroscopic view of cyber threats regarding their respective actions for tackling cyber-attacks.

The National Cyber Security Coordinator (‘NCSC’) under the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) coordinates and consults with various Indian stakeholders and agencies handling cyber related activities to evaluate and analyze the progress of incident reports.

The Government has introduced the Information Technology (*NCIIPC* and Manner of Performing Functions and Duties) Rules, 2013. The following rules lead to interoperability between CERT-In and NCIIPC, part of and under administrative control of National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO):

- Rule 5(3) (a): NCIIPC shall, in conjunction with the respective nodal officers and other agencies like CERT-In working in the field, issue advisories or alerts and provide further guidance and expertise sharing in addressing the threats/vulnerabilities for protection of Critical Information Infrastructures.
- Rule 5(3) (b): It shall, in the event of a likely/actual national level threat, play a pivotal role and coordinate the response of the various stakeholders in the area of critical information infrastructure in close cooperation with CERT-In

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