

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2784
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 02.08.2017

MOBILE APPS FOR CYBER SECURITY

2784 SHRIMATI VANAROJA R:

Will the Minister of Electronics & Information Technology be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has launched Desktop tools and Mobile Applications for Citizens to tackle Cyber Security and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the said tool shall control unauthorized usage of portable USB storage devices on mobiles and computers and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details regarding the app M-Kavach?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)

(a): Center for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) has developed desktop computer security solutions namely, 1) USB Pratirodh – a USB (Universal Serial BUS) storage device control solution; 2) AppSamvid - Application White-listing solution and 3) M-Kavach – a mobile security solution with the support from Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. As part of Cyber Swachhta Kendra an initiative of Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), these solutions were launched for free download to citizens on 21st Feb 2017 at New Delhi. As on date, there have been about 97000 downloads for M-Kavach, 17862 downloads for USB Pratirodh and 12971 downloads for AppSamvid.

(b) USB Pratirodh is used to control the unauthorized usage of portable USB storage devices on computers/desktops. This is a desktop solution which controls the usage of removable storage media like pen drives, external hard drives, cell phones, and other supported USB mass storage devices. Only authenticated users can access the removable storage media. It securely stores data on USB devices and also protects from malware penetrating through USB devices.

(c): M-Kavach is a comprehensive mobile device security solution for Android devices addressing various threats related to mobile phones. M-Kavach prevents unauthorized access to resources such as Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and Camera. It also protects against JavaScript Malware. Users can restrict the access to critical applications like mobile wallets, social media apps etc., and also block unwanted Calls. It also helps the users in tracking SIM card changes on the device in case of device loss/theft and provides an option to remotely wipe out Contacts/Call-Logs and Factory Reset the device.
