

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1557**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 27.12.2017

**REGULATION OF SMARTPHONE MANUFACTURERS**

**1557. SHRI PONGULETI SRINIVASA REDDY:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has asked 21 smartphone makers of which majority are Chinese to share the security procedures and processes they have undertaken to ensure security of mobile phone devices in order to ensure that mobile phone users have assured data privacy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is true that there are many instances that mobile handsets have exploded/caught fire across the country resulting in irreparable loss to the customers; and
- (d) if so, the measures taken by the Government to ensure safety of public?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI ALPHONS KANNANTHANAM)

(a) and (b): The mobile/smartphone devices are playing a crucial role in achieving the goal of Digital India, hence there is a need to ensure the security and safety of these devices. Towards this, Indian Computer Emergency Response Team(CERT-In) has requested the mobile manufactures selling smartphones in India for furnishing details about the safety and security practices, architecture, frameworks, guidelines/standards followed and implemented in their respective product / services, provided in the country.

(c): The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), has not received any complaint in this regard, however:-

- (i) BIS vide e-mail dated 28.02.2017 had informed MeitY regarding the explosion of Samsung Galaxy Note 7 reported in the media. BIS has also indicated that they had taken up the matter with M/s. Samsung India Electronics Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon to submit the root-cause analysis, corrective actions proposed and taken. Further, M/s. Samsung India Electronics Pvt. Ltd., had submitted the details to BIS and indicating that they have not initiated the supply of the product-Samsung Galaxy Note 7 in India. Subsequently BIS had informed vide e-mail dated 01.03.2017 that the Samsung Galaxy Note 7, with

batteries and adaptors have been included in the scope of registration with BIS based on testing at BIS recognized labs as per applicable safety standards, i.e., IS 13252, IS 16046 and IS 13252 respectively.

- (ii) The issue of explosion of Redmi Note 4 was also reported in media. Since, MeitY has notified Indian Safety Standards for mobile phones and the Redmi Note 4 was registered by BIS, proactively, MeitY has initiated surveillance for the batteries registered with BIS by Xiaomi as the battery is the major exploding unit in the mobile phone. The samples of batteries registered with BIS were picked up and submitted at BIS recognized labs for testing as per the applicable safety standards. The test results from the labs have confirmed that these batteries are compliant to the Indian Safety Standards.

(d): The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), has notified “Electronics and IT Goods (Requirement of Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012 (CRO)” in the Gazette of India vide S.O. No. 2357(E) dated 03.10.2012 and S.O. No. 2905(E) dated 13.11.2014 under the provision of Compulsory Registration Scheme of BIS Act, 1986. The Order mandates Indian Safety Standards for notified products. The products are added to the Schedule of the Order in a phased manner. The mobile phone, Sealed Secondary Cells / Batteries containing Alkaline or other non-acid Electrolytes for use in portable applications and Power Adaptors for IT Equipments were added to the Schedule of Order on 13<sup>th</sup> Nov 2014. The Order came into effect on 13<sup>th</sup> Sep 2015 for mobile phones, on 1<sup>st</sup> Jun 2016 for Sealed Secondary Cells / Batteries containing Alkaline or other non-acid Electrolytes for use in portable applications (e.g., mobile phone), and on 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2017. MeitY is also executing surveillance of the goods notified under CRO which are registered by BIS.

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