

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2428**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 02ND JANUARY, 2018/ PAUSHA 12, 1939 (SAKA)

BLUE WHALE GAME

2428. SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY:

SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of adult and children have lost their lives due to playing the blue whale game in the country and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government has directed the State Governments to initiate legal action and sensitize police force regarding the Blue Whale game challenge and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether there is lack of awareness among policemen regarding misuse of social media and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government has directed the State Governments to train police officials at district and police station levels to handle such crimes; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)**

(a) to (e): Instances of children committing suicide while allegedly playing Blue Whale Challenge Game were reported in various States/UTs and all States /UTs were directed to monitor the situation closely and take action against proponent of the game. In this regard, a Committee was formed under the chairmanship of DG, Computer Emergency Response Team-India (CERT-In) to investigate cases of suicide committed or attempted allegedly using 'Blue Whale Challenge Game'. The Committee analysed the internet activities, device activities, call records and other social media activity, other forensic evidences and also interacted with rescued victims associated with these incidents. Involvement of Blue Whale Challenge Game in any of these incidents could not be established.

2. Training of law enforcement personnel is an ongoing activity and various national and state police academies/institutes regularly organize training programs. Law Enforcement Agencies regularly monitor the social media sites and take action under existing legal provisions for removal of malicious contents/materials.
