GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2674
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 03.01.2018

CYBER BULLYING

2674   SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:

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

(a) whether excessive use of smart-phone and internet is resulting in victimisation and cyber bullying of school children;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether any report has been published recently in this regard; and
(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to prevent cyber bullying?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): With widespread proliferation of new technologies like smart-phone and internet which provides immense opportunity to school children, society and other individuals for entertainment, information sharing, education programmes, communication, etc., certain elements in the society make use of unique characteristics of cyberspace to commit cyber crimes against the society, including children, by posting objectionable / obscene contents. These cyber crimes also include cyber bullying and cyber stalking.

(c) and (d): No such study report has come to the notice of the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology to establish the same. However, some reports of purported cyber bullying were noticed through media recently. Government attaches highest importance to the matter of prevention and control of cyber crime against children and has taken following steps:

(i) Ministry of Home Affairs has issued an Advisory on Preventing & combating Cyber Crime against Women and Children dated 4th January, 2012, wherein it was advised to States / Union Territories to specifically combat the crimes in forms of cyber stalking, cyber bullying, child pornography and exposure to sexually explicit material etc.

(ii) Central Board of Secondary Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has issued Guidelines for Safe and Effective Use of Internet and Digital Technologies in Schools and School Buses on 18th August 2017

(iii) National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has taken several measures for awareness generation about cybercrime against children.

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