GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1715

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 06^{TH} MARCH, 2018/PHALGUNA 15, 1939 (SAKA) BLUE WHALE CHALLENGE

1715. SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that the Government has directed the State Governments to initiate legal action and sensitize police force regarding the Blue Whale challenge and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is lack of awareness among policemen regarding misuse of social media and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has directed the State Governments to train police officials at district and police station levels to handle such crimes; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): 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. Police and Public order are State subjects and prevention, detection, investigation of crime including capacity building of police personnel are primarily the responsibility of states. Various steps are taken by MHA as well as States to modernize the preventive setup and equip police personnel with knowledge and skills for prevention and control of crime. Training to law enforcement personnel regularly imparted through various national and is state police academies/institutes. Ministry of Home Affairs is implementing Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Children scheme in the period 2017-2020 which aims to train 27500 police personnel across the country in the field of cyber domain.
