RECORD/DATA OF THE SCAMS IN LADAKH

3428.   SHRI JAMYANG TSERING NAMGYAL:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a)   whether the Government has the data of the scams that has happened in UT of Ladakh during the last five years and if so, the details thereof, year-wise;

(b)   whether the Government has a record of the types of scams and fraud reported during the last five years in UT of Ladakh;

(c)   if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d)   whether the Government has conducted public awareness/campaign regarding prevention of scams and fraud particularly through online mode in UT of Ladakh; and

(e)   whether the Government has taken preventive measures in rural Ladakh against digital scams or frauds and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR)

(a) to (c): The Government is committed to ensure that the Internet in India is Open, Safe & Trusted and Accountable for all users. With the expansion of the Internet and more and more Indians coming online, instances of cyber crimes have also increased. Government is fully cognizant and aware of various cyber security threats.

As per National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), NCRB started collection of data for Ladakh UT separately since 2020 and has provided data till 2021. The cases registered under Fraud (including Credit/Debit cards, ATM, online Banking Fraud, OTP Frauds & other) for cyber-crimes (involving communication devices as medium/target) during 2020 and 2021 is 0,0 respectively.

(d) and (e): A number of activities for increasing public awareness regarding cyber security have been carried out across the country including in rural areas which include the following:

i.   1,519 awareness workshops on information security have been organised in both direct and virtual mode for school and college students, teachers, faculty, government personnel, law enforcement agencies, general users, parents, women, Common Service Centres, etc., covering 3,18,767 participants across 33 States and Union territories. 1,24,909 school teachers have been trained as master trainers in 43 training programme.

ii.   5.75 crore beneficiaries are estimated to have been covered so far through multiple modes including 15 Cyber Safety and Cyber Security Awareness Weeks, 116 mass awareness programme broadcast through Doordarshan/All India Radio; 26 editions of bimonthly newsletter and multilingual awareness materials in the form of handbooks (16), multimedia short videos (75), multi-lingual posters (121), cartoon stories for children (65), etc. which have been disseminated through the print, electronics and social media, besides being made available through the ISEA awareness website (www.infosecawareness.in).

iii. A self-paced three module e-learning course on 'Cyber Hygiene Practices' has been made available through ISEA awareness portal www.infosecawareness.in under which 85,767 participants have been registered and 30,849 participants have been certified. In addition, online quiz competitions on cyber hygiene/cyber security aspects have been organized regularly for various users, in which, 7.37 lakh candidates have participated and 3.90 lakh candidates have cleared the same.

iv. The CSC Academy, a society set up by CSC e-Governance Services India Limited, has partnered with a number of corporate partners to implement cyber security and safety projects in the rural areas covering more than five lakh direct and indirect beneficiaries, including women.

v. The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats/vulnerabilities and countermeasures to protect computers and networks on an ongoing basis through its official social media handles and websites, which benefits all citizens, including those in rural areas.

vi. CERT-In organised various events and activities for citizens during Safer Internet Day on 07.02.2023 and Cyber Security Awareness Month in October 2022, by posting security tips using posters and videos on social media platforms and websites. CERT-In, in association with Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, conducted an online awareness campaign for citizens, covering topics such as general online safety, social media risks and safety, mobile related frauds and safety, secure digital payment practices, etc., through videos and quizzes on the MyGov platform.

vii. Cyber Swachtta Kendra conducted "Cyber Swachhta Campaign" during the month of October 2022, and around 69 crore one-time SMS were sent out through Internet Service Providers to citizens including in rural areas to create cyber security awareness.

viii. Ladakh police has taken preventive measures through social media, news bulletin, print media, text messages and distribution/paste of pamphlet and poster among the people to remain refrain from the fraudsters. Public awareness campaign regarding the prevention of scams and fraud were conducted in the villages, schools, colleges and particularly during public gathering.

ix. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has taken steps to spread awareness on cyber crime that inter-alia include; issuance of alerts/advisories, dissemination of messages through SMS, 14C social media account i.e. Twitter handle (@Cyberdost), Facebook(CyberDostI4C), Instagram (cyberdosti4c), Telegram (cyberdosti4c), Radio campaign, engaged MyGov for publicity in multiple media, publishing of Handbook for Adolescents/Students, organizing of Cyber Safety and Security Awareness week, in association with police department in different States/UTs etc.

x. MHA has issued advisory to all the State/UT Governments to carry out publicity of National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal https://cybercrime.gov.in and toll-free helpline number '1930' to create mass awareness.

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