GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 741

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25TH JULY, 2023/ SRAVANA 3, 1945 (SAKA)

CASES OF DEEPFAKES

741. SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA: SHRI KUMBAKUDI SUDHAKARAN: SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is cognizant of the fact that agencies under the Ministry of Home Affairs have found cases of deepfakes and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of the threat of deepfakes in an election; and
- (c) the measures that have been employed by the Government to detect deepfakes and the agencies that have been employed to do so?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISHRA)

(a) to (c): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. The States/UTs are primarily responsible for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of crimes including cases of deepfakes through their Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs). The law enforcement agencies take legal action as per the provisions of law against persons involved in cyber crime. The Central Government supplements the initiatives of the States/UTs through advisories and financial assistance under various schemes for their capacity building.

To strengthen the mechanism to deal with cyber crimes in a comprehensive and coordinated manner, the Central Government has taken steps for spreading awareness about cyber crimes, issuance of alerts/ advisories, capacity building/ training of law enforcement personnel/ prosecutors/ judicial officers, improving cyber forensic facilities, etc. The Government has established the 'Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre' (I4C) to provide a framework and eco-system for LEAs to deal with cyber crimes in a comprehensive and coordinated manner. The Government has launched the 'National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal' (https://cybercrime.gov.in) to enable the public to report all types of cyber crimes.

All the States have been sensitized through a workshop conducted on 26.11.2021 about the need for early identification, detection, flagging and take down of deep fakes using the provisions of Information Technology Act 2000 and rules made there under and Indian Penal Code.
