GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 817

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25TH JULY, 2023/ SRAVANA 3, 1945 (SAKA)
HIGH COST OF INVESTIGATING CYBER CRIME

817. SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that in many instances of Cyber Crime the victims were not turning up for registration due to high investigation cost which is sometimes more than the loss suffered and lack of enough evidence thereby further motivating fraudsters leading to increase in cyber crimes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps initiated by the Government in brining regulatory framework to plug the loopholes and to minimize the cost of investigation to department so also to the victims?

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 cyber crime 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, and to make optimum use of the resources thereby bringing down the cost of cyber crime investigations, both for the State LEAs as well as the victims, the Central Government has taken steps which, inter-alia, include the following:

- i. Established 'Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre' (I4C) to deal with all types of cyber crime in the country, in a coordinated and comprehensive manner.
- ii. The 'National Cyber Forensic Laboratory (Investigation)' has been established at New Delhi to provide early stage cyber forensic assistance to Investigating Officers (IOs) of all State/UT Police both through online and offline modes.
- iii. Launched a Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) platform, namely 'CyTrain' portal for capacity building of all the stakeholders, police officers, judicial officers and prosecutors through online courses on

critical aspects of cyber crime investigation, forensics, prosecution, etc. along with certification.

- iv. Training curriculum has been prepared for police personnel, public prosecutors and judicial officers for better handling of investigation and prosecution and States/UTs have been requested to organize training programmes accordingly. 36118 LEAs, 2022 Judicial Officer and 2240 Public Prosecutors have been trained by Ministry of Home Affairs, State Government and BPR&D.
- v. The 'National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal' (https://cybercrime.gov.in) has been launched to enable public to report incidents pertaining to all types of cyber crimes, with special focus on cyber crimes against women and children. Cyber crime incidents reported on this portal, their conversion into FIRs and subsequent action thereon are handled by the State/UT Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) concerned as per the provisions of the law.

- vi. The 'Citizen Financial Cyber Fraud Reporting and Management System' has been launched for immediate reporting of financial frauds and to stop siphoning off funds by the fraudsters. A toll-free Helpline number '1930' has been operationalized to get assistance in lodging online cyber complaints.
- vii. Under the Cybercrime Prevention against Women and Children (CCPWC) Scheme, financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 122.24

 Crore has been provided to all State/UTs essentially to develop capabilities of Law Enforcement Agencies in terms of investigation tools and man power, which are aimed at bringing down the cost of investigating cyber crime.
- viii. Seven Joint Cyber Coordination Teams have been constituted covering the whole country based upon cyber crime hotspots/ areas having multi jurisdictional issues by on boarding States/UTs to enhance the coordination framework among the LEAs of the States/UTs

- ix. The 'National Cyber Forensic Laboratory (Evidence)' has been set up at Hyderabad to provide the necessary forensic support in cases of evidence related to cyber crime, preserving the evidence and its analysis in line with the provisions of IT Act and Evidence Act; and reduced turnaround time.
- x. Ministry of Home Affairs has also provided central assistance under 'Assistance to States & UTs for Modernization of Police' Scheme to the States & UTs for the acquisition of latest weaponry, training gadgets, advanced communication/forensic equipment, Cyber Policing equipment etc.
