GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 617

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH FEBRUARY 2024/ MAGHA 17, 1945 (SAKA)

POLICIES TO TACKLE CYBER CRIMES

617. SHRIMATI SAJDA AHMED:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the policies and programmes implemented by the Government to prevent the increasing occurrence of cyber crime;

(b) whether the Government is aware that illegal lending applications and fake customer care numbers are being utilized by scammers for cyber fraud, and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures that the Government has taken to address and counteract the use of illegal lending apps and fake customer care numbers in cyber fraud;

(d) the details and the number of cases registered for impersonation and sextortion and cyber threat to the Government organizations across the country;

(e) whether the Government have any plan to introduce legislation specifically to address digital crime, considering the increasing prevalence of cyber threats; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f): '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 Central Government supplements the initiatives of the States/UTs through advisories and financial assistance under various schemes for their capacity building of their LEAs.

The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes the statistical data on crimes in its publication "Crime in India". The latest published report is for the year 2022. Crime Head-wise details of cases registered, persons arrested, persons charge-sheeted and persons convicted under cyber crimes (involving communication devices as medium/target) during 2022 are at the Annexure. To strengthen the mechanism to deal with cyber crimes in a comprehensive and coordinated manner, the Central Government has taken steps which, inter-alia, include the following:

- i. The Ministry of Home Affairs has set up the 'Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre' (I4C) to deal with all types of cyber crime in the country, in a coordinated and comprehensive manner.
- ii. Seven Joint Cyber Coordination Teams (JCCTs) have been constituted for Mewat, Jamtara, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Chandigarh, Vishakhapatnam, and Guwahati under I4C 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 Law Enforcement Agencies of the States/UTs. Seven workshops were organized for JCCTs at

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Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Guwahati, Vishakhapatnam, Lucknow, Ranchi and Chandigarh in 2023.

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- iii. The 'National Cyber Forensic Laboratory (Investigation)' has been established, as a part of the I4C, at New Delhi to provide early stage cyber forensic assistance to Investigating Officers (IOs) of State/UT Police. So far, National Cyber Forensics Laboratory (Investigation) have provided its services to State LEAs in around 9,000 cyber forensics like mobile forensics, memory forensics, Call Data Record (CDR) Analysis, etc. to help them in investigation of cases pertaining to cyber crimes.
- iv. The 'National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal' (https://cybercrime.gov.in) has been launched, as a part of the I4C, 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 concerned as per the provisions of the law.
- v. The 'Citizen Financial Cyber Fraud Reporting and Management System', under I4C, has been launched for immediate reporting of financial frauds and to stop siphoning off funds by the fraudsters. So far, financial amount of more than Rs. 1200 Crore have been saved in

more than 4.7 lakh complaints. A toll-free Helpline number '1930' has been operationalized to get assistance in lodging online cyber complaints.

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- vi. The Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) platform, namely 'CyTrain' portal has been developed under I4C, for capacity building of police officers/judicial officers through online course on critical aspects of cyber crime investigation, forensics, prosecution etc. along with certification. More than 76,000 Police Officers from States/UTs are registered and more than 53,000 Certificates issued through the portal.
- vii. Till date more than 3.2 lakhs SIM cards and 49,000 IMEIs as reported by Police authorities have been blocked by Government of India.
- viii. I4C has imparted cyber hygiene training to 6,000 officials of various Ministries/ Departments of Government of India.
 - ix. I4C has imparted cyber hygiene training to more than 23,000 NCC cadets.
 - x. The Ministry of Home Affairs has provided financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 122.24 crores under the 'Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Children (CCPWC)' Scheme, to the States/UTs for their capacity building such as setting up of cyber forensic-cum-training laboratories, hiring of junior cyber consultants and training of LEAs' personnel, public prosecutors and judicial officers. So far, cyber

forensic-cum-training laboratories have been commissioned in 33 States/UTs. So far, more than 24,600 LEA personnel, judicial officers and prosecutors have been provided training on cyber crime awareness, investigation, forensics etc.

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- xi. National Cyber Forensic Laboratory (Evidence) has been set up at Hyderabad. Establishment of this laboratory provides 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.
- xii. To spread awareness on cyber crime, the Central Government has taken steps which, inter-alia, include; dissemination of messages through SMS, I4C social media account i.e. X (formerly Twitter) (@Cyberdost), Facebook(CyberDostI4C), Instagram (cyberdostI4C), Telegram(cyberdosti4c), Radio campaign, engaged MyGov for publicity in multiple mediums, organizing Cyber Safety and Security Awareness weeks in association with States/UTs, publishing of Handbook for Adolescents/Students, etc. The States/UTs have also been requested to carry out publicity to create mass awareness.

The Law Enforcement Agencies utilize the provisions of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 and other extant laws to deal with cyber crimes.

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ANNEXURE L.S.US.Q.N.O. 617 FOR 06.02.2024

Crime Head-wise Cases Registered (CR), Cases Charge sheeted (CCS), Cases Convicted (CON), Persons Arrested (PAR), Persons Charge sheeted (PCS) and Persons Convicted (PCV) under Cyber Crimes during 2022

S1.	Crime Head	2022					
no		CR	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	Tampering computer source documents	65	61	1	83	162	1
2	Computer Related Offences	23894	7204	378	7846	9236	517
3	Cyber Terrorism	12	5	0	6	6	0
4	Publication/transmission of obscene / sexually explicit act in electronic form	6896	3600	165	4783	4577	217
5	Interception or Monitoring or decryption of Information	1	1	0	1	1	0
6	Un-authorized access/attempt to access to protected computer system	1	0	0	0	0	0
7	Abetment to Commit Offences	4	1	0	1	1	0
8	Attempt to Commit Offences	18	6	0	14	13	0
9	Other Sections of IT Act	1017	525	23	973	810	58
A	Total Offences under I.T. Act	31908	11403	567	13707	14806	793
10	Abetment of Suicide (Online)	24	7	0	26	10	0
11	Cyber Stalking/Bullying of Women/Children	1471	841	17	1012	1017	19
12	Data theft	97	38	4	56	50	4
13	Fraud	17470	3391	129	4778	5213	160
14	Cheating	10509	1290	64	3161	2241	70
15	Forgery	224	134	78	252	258	80
16	Defamation/Morphing	61	26	0	43	31	0
17	Fake Profile	157	42	0	50	47	0
18	Counterfeiting	2	1	0	3	1	0
19	Cyber Blackmailing/Threatening	696	215	4	402	300	4
20	Fake News on Social Media	230	128	31	179	190	31
21	Other Offences	2857	1286	220	1892	1875	236
В	Total Offences under IPC	33798	7399	547	11854	11233	604
22	Gambling Act (Online Gambling)	37	29	2	78	71	7
23	Lotteries Act (Online Lotteries)	6	3	0	21	19	0
24	Copy Right Act	27	11	0	9	15	0
25	Trade Marks Act	14	9	0	9	9	0
26	Other SLL Crimes	103	71	2	121	108	3
С	Total Offences under SLL	187	123	4	238	222	10
		65893	18925	1118	25799		1407