

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 4259
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2019

CYBER CRIME

4259. SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH VERMA :

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of cyber crimes that have been committed against women and children in the last three years;
- (b) the State-wise statistics of cyber crimes particularly in Delhi;
- (c) the crimes that are characterized as cyber crimes;
- (d) the laws which are applicable for cyber crimes in the country; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Ministry to curb cyber crimes against women and children?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes statistics on crimes in its publication "Crime in India". The published reports are available till the year 2017, which includes data of cyber crime against women and children also.

(b) Details of State/UT-wise number of cyber crimes including the State of Delhi in the past three years is at Annexure.

(c) & (d) The Information Technology Act, 2000 has provisions to deal with cyber crime against women and children. Sections 66E, 67, and 67A of the Act provide for the punishment and fine for voyeurism, publishing or transmitting of obscene/sexually-explicit material in electronic form. Section 67B of the Act specifically provides stringent punishment for publishing, browsing or transmitting child pornography in electronic form. Further, sections 354A and 354D of Indian Penal Code provide punishment for cyber bullying and cyber stalking.

Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides for certain due diligence to be followed by Intermediaries failing which they would be liable. The Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules, 2011 notified under section 79 of the Act, inter alia, specify that the intermediaries shall inform the users of computer resource not to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit, update or share any information that is grossly harmful, defamatory, obscene, pornographic, paedophilic, harms minor in any way; violates any law for the time being in force etc.

(e) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India; and States are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of cyber crimes through their law enforcement machinery. The Law Enforcement Agencies take legal action as per provisions of law against the cyber crime offenders. However, the Central Government has taken a number of legal, technical and administrative measures to prevent cyber crimes. These inter alia, include the following:

- (i) Government periodically blocks the websites containing extreme child sexual abuse material (CSAM) based on INTERPOL's "worst of list" received through Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), the national nodal agency for Interpol in India. Department of Telecom (DoT) on 11.7.2018 has issued instructions to block 2657 number of such websites.

- (ii) Government has issued an order to concerned Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to work out a suitable arrangement for receiving Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), UK list of CSAM websites/webpages on a dynamic basis and block access to child pornography webpages/websites.
- (iii) DoT has requested all Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to make suitable arrangement to spread awareness among their subscribers about the use of parental control filters in the end-user machines through messages of email, invoices, SMS, website, etc.
- (iv) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has issued guidelines on 18.08.2017 to schools on the safe and secure use of Internet. This circular directs schools to install effective firewalls, filtering and monitoring software mechanisms in all the computers and deploy effective security policies.
- (v) Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is implementing a comprehensive central sector scheme, namely "Centre for Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Children (CCPWC)", funded under Nirbhaya Fund to handle all issues related to check all cyber-crime against women and children including child pornography.
- (vi) National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has published a booklet on "Child Victims of Cyber Crime –Legal Tool Kit" as a guide for investigating officers for better understanding of the cyber crime related laws in simple language.
- (vii) POCSO E-box portal by NCPCR was opened for reporting of cyber crime targeting children on 23.06.2017. NCPCR has now enhanced the scope of POCSO E-box on 4.11.2017 to also handle cyber bullying, cyber stalking, morphing of images and child pornography. The E-Box is also available as mobile app at Google/Apple Play Store.
- (viii) Ministry of Home Affairs has issued an Advisory on 4.1.2012 on Preventing & Combating Cyber Crime against Women and Children, wherein it was advised to States/Union Territories to specifically combat the crimes in forms of cyber stalking, cyberbullying, child pornography and exposure to sexually explicit material etc.
- (ix) MHA has launched the "National Database on Sexual Offenders" (NDSO) on 20th September 2018 to facilitate investigation and tracking of sexual offenders across the country by law enforcement agencies.
- (x) In order to facilitate States/UTs, MHA on 19th February 2019 launched an online analytic tool for police called "Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences" to monitor and track time-bound investigation in sexual assault cases in accordance with the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2018.
- (xi) To prevent such crimes and to speed up investigation, Central Government has taken steps to spread awareness about cyber crimes, issue of alerts/advisories, capacity building/training of law enforcement personnel/ prosecutors/ judicial officers, improving cyber forensics facilities etc. The Government has also launched the online National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal, www.cybercrime.gov.in to enable citizens to report complaints pertaining to all types of cyber crimes with special focus on cyber crimes against women and children.

Further, to spread awareness on cyber crime, several steps have been taken that include dissemination of messages on cyber crime through MHA Twitter handle @CyberDost, Radio campaign, publishing of Handbook for Adolescents / Students, publishing of 'Information Security Best practices' for the benefit of Govt. Officials, organizing of Cyber Safety and Security Awareness week, in association with police department in different States/UTs etc.

Annexure

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) TO THE LOK SABHA
UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 4259 FOR 13.12.2019 ASKED BY SHRI PARVESH
SAHIB SINGH VERMA REGARDING CYBER CRIME**

State/UT-wise Cases Registered (CR), under Cyber Crimes during 2015-2017

SL	State/UT	2015	2016	2017
1	Andhra Pradesh	536	616	931
2	Arunachal Pradesh	6	4	1
3	Assam	483	696	1120
4	Bihar	242	309	433
5	Chhattisgarh	103	90	171
6	Goa	17	31	13
7	Gujarat	242	362	458
8	Haryana	224	401	504
9	Himachal Pradesh	50	31	56
10	Jammu & Kashmir	34	28	63
11	Jharkhand	180	259	720
12	Karnataka	1447	1101	3174
13	Kerala	290	283	320
14	Madhya Pradesh	231	258	490
15	Maharashtra	2195	2380	3604
16	Manipur	6	11	74
17	Meghalaya	56	39	39
18	Mizoram	8	1	10
19	Nagaland	0	2	0
20	Odisha	386	317	824
21	Punjab	149	102	176
22	Rajasthan	949	941	1304
23	Sikkim	1	1	1
24	Tamil Nadu	142	144	228
25	Telangana	687	593	1209
26	Tripura	13	8	7
27	Uttar Pradesh	2208	2639	4971
28	Uttarakhand	48	62	124
29	West Bengal	398	478	568
30	A & N Islands	6	3	3
31	Chandigarh	77	26	32
32	D&N Haveli	0	1	1
33	Daman & Diu	1	0	0
34	Delhi UT	177	98	162
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	0	2	5
	TOTAL	11592	12317	21796
