

**Government of India
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
Lok Sabha
UNSTARRED QUESTION 5451
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.04.2022)**

CYBER ATTACKS

5451 Shri Benny Behanan

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

- a) whether it is a fact that over 62% of Indian Small and Medium Businesses that participated in a study by CISCO, reported that they have lost more than Rs. 3.5 crores this year due to cyber attacks and if so, the details thereof;
- b) whether the Government has taken any steps to help domestic businesses in strengthening their cyber security and if so, the details thereof;
- c) the annual report by the U.S. China Economic and Security Review Commission found an increase in cyber attacks from Chinese organisations targetting India;
- d) whether the Government has investigated these claims and made any efforts to strengthen cyber security from such attacks; and
- e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER
OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
[SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR]**

(a) & (b) The Government is committed to ensure that the Internet in India is Open, Safe & Trusted and Accountable for all users. As per the information received from Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), there are media articles, citing a report published by CISCO (a private US company), regarding losses to businesses due to cyber-attacks. The findings of such reports by private companies

are generally based on data generated by their products or survey of their customers. The Government does not subscribe to such reports.

(c) & (d) : There are media reports, regarding an increase in cyber attacks from Chinese organisations targeting India. Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) is mandated to track and monitor cyber security incidents in India. According to the logs analysed and made available to Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), the Internet Protocol (IP) addresses of the computers from where the attacks appear to be originated belong to various countries.

(e) Government has taken measures to enhance the cyber security posture and prevent cyber security incidents, which inter alia, include:

(i). 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 regular basis.

(ii). CERT-In operates an automated cyber threat exchange platform for proactively collection, analysis and sharing of tailored alerts

with organisations across sectors for proactive threat mitigation actions by them.

- (iii). A Cyber Crisis Management Plan, has been formulated for countering cyber-attacks and cyber terrorism for implementation by all Ministries/ Departments of Central Government, State/UT Governments and their organizations and critical sectors.**
- (iv). CERT-In regularly conducts workshops for Ministries, Departments, States & UTs and critical organizations to sensitize them about the cyber security threat landscape.**
- (v). Cyber security mock drills are conducted regularly in Government and critical sectors. 64 such drills have so far been conducted by CERT-In where 820 organisations from different States and sectors participated.**
- (vi). Government has issued guidelines for Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) in Ministries/Departments regarding their key roles and responsibilities for securing applications / infrastructure and compliance.**
