

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 642
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2022

SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF CHILDREN

642. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:

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

- (a) Whether the Government is working on zero tolerance policy against any type of sexual harassment of children and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) Whether some porn sites have been banned during the last five years in this regard and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether the number of cases of cyber pornography against children have increased during last three years, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) Whether the CBI has conducted raids in fourteen States including Delhi in connection of child sexual abuse content recently; and
- (e) If so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (b): The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 enacted by Govt of India provides safeguards for children against sexual abuse. The act defines a child as any person below the age of 18 years. The POCSO Act 2012 provides for establishment of Special Courts for the purpose of ensuring speedy trial. The Act was amended in 2019 to introduce more stringent punishment including death penalty for committing sexual crimes on children, with a view to deter the perpetrators & prevent such crimes against children. Further the POCSO Rules, 2020 have also been notified by the Ministry to protect the children from exploitation/violence and sexual exploitation.

As per the information provided by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and Ministry of Home Affairs, measures undertaken by the Central Government in consultation with various stakeholders to strengthen the mechanism to deal with cyber crimes including crimes against children in a comprehensive and coordinated manner include the following:

- i. Section 67B of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 provides stringent punishment for publishing, transmitting or viewing Child sexual abuse material online.
- ii. The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 empower the users of Intermediaries and makes the social media platforms accountable for their safety. The rules require the intermediaries to adopt a robust grievance redressal mechanism including time-bound disposal of grievances. The intermediaries need to convey their terms and conditions which must include communication to users not to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit, update or share any information that is inter alia obscene, harmful to child in any way or is otherwise unlawful. Intermediaries

are also expected to remove any information that is in violation of any law in India as and when brought to their knowledge either through a court order or through a notice by an appropriate government or its authorised agency. The rules also require Significant Social Media Intermediary (SSMI) to deploy technology based measures to proactively identify child sexual abuse material.

- iii. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) operates a 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. 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.
- iv. 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.
- v. Government has issued an order to concerned Internet Service Providers (ISPs) directing them to implement Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), UK or Project Arachnid, Canada list of CSAM websites/webpages on dynamic basis and block access to such child pornography webpages/websites.
- vi. Department of Telecom (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.
- vii. 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.
- viii. Through Information Security Education & Awareness (ISEA) program, MeitY has been spreading awareness among users including women and children on the importance of digital safety while using Internet. A dedicated website for information security awareness (<https://www.infosecawareness.in>) provides relevant awareness material.
- ix. The Ministry of Home Affairs has provided financial assistance under the Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Children (CCPWC) Scheme to all the States/UTs for setting up of cyber forensic-cum-training laboratories, hiring of junior cyber consultants and capacity building of Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs), public prosecutors and judicial officers. Cyber forensic-cum-training laboratories have been commissioned in 28 States/UTs.

(c) to (e) As per the information provided by the National Crime Records Bureau the State/UT-wise Cases Registered(CR), Cases Chargesheeted (CCS), Cases Convicted (CON), Persons Arrested (PAR), Persons Chargesheeted (PCS) and Persons Convicted(PCV) under Cyber Pornography/Hosting or Publishing Obscene Sexual Materials depicting children for Cyber Crimes against Children during 2018-2020 is at Annexure-I.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (C) TO (E) OF REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 642 FOR 04.02.2022 'SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF CHILDREN' BY SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA REGARDING STATE/UT-WISE CASES REGISTERED(CR), CASES CHARGESHEETED(CCS), CASES CONVICTED(CON), PERSONS ARRESTED(PAR), PERSONS CHARGESHEETED(PCS) AND PERSONS CONVICTED(PCV) UNDER CYBER PORNOGRAPHY/HOSTING OR PUBLISHING OBSCENE SEXUAL MATERIALS DEPICTING CHILDREN FOR CYBER CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN DURING 2018-2020

| S L | State/UT | 2018 | | | | | | 2019 | | | | | | 2020 | | | | | |
|--------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------------|-----------|----------|-----------------|-----------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| | | C R | C CS | CO N | PA R | P CS | PC V | C R | C CS | CO N | PA R | P CS | PC V | C R | C CS | CO N | PA R | P CS | PC V |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | Assam | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 21 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 10 | 0 |
| 4 | Bihar | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| 6 | Goa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7 | Gujarat | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| 8 | Haryana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 16 | 8 | 0 | 11 | 10 | 0 |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 17 | 5 | 0 | 9 | 6 | 0 |
| 10 | Jharkhand | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11 | Karnataka | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 12 2 | 10 | 0 | 31 | 10 | 0 |
| 12 | Kerala | 1 8 | 8 | 1 | 14 | 8 | 1 | 27 | 9 | 0 | 22 | 14 | 0 | 10 1 | 26 | 0 | 10 3 | 27 | 0 |
| 13 | Madhya Pradesh | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 9 | 0 | 13 | 10 | 0 | 20 | 14 | 0 | 17 | 21 | 0 |
| 14 | Maharashtra | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 12 3 | 31 | 0 | 56 | 38 | 0 |
| 15 | Manipur | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 16 | Meghalaya | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 17 | Mizoram | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 18 | Nagaland | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 19 | Odisha | 7 | 7 | 0 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 71 | 46 | 0 | 77 | 77 | 0 |
| 20 | Punjab | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 8 | 0 |
| 21 | Rajasthan | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 9 | 9 | 0 |
| 22 | Sikkim | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 23 | Tamil Nadu | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 28 | 5 | 0 | 11 | 5 | 0 |
| 24 | Telangana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| 25 | Tripura | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 26 | Uttar Pradesh | 8 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 7 | 0 | 25 | 23 | 1 | 37 | 37 | 1 | 16 1 | 99 | 0 | 12 | 14 7 | 0 |
| 27 | Uttarakhand | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| 28 | West Bengal | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | TOTAL STATE(S) | 4 2 | 22 | 1 | 36 | 26 | 1 | 10 2 | 58 | 2 | 10 4 | 86 | 4 | 73 5 | 27 0 | 0 | 37 2 | 38 1 | 0 |
| 29 | A&N Islands | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 3 | Chandigarh | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

