GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1551

TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2024

LEAKAGE OF STUDENTS DATA

1551. SHRI ARUN GOVIL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the provisions made by the Government to ensure that the data of students is not leaked on submission of online application for any university or insititute as unwanted calls and bulk SMSs start coming in such cases as soon as the application is submitted;

(b) the punishment proposed to be awarded to the persons found involved in data leakage;

(c) the reasons behind receiving unwanted calls and bulk SMSs right after the time application is submitted; and

(d) the measures taken to check the unnecessary calls and SMSs continuously made to customers in the name of credit card and loan facilities alongwith the reasons for said calls and SMSs?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW):

(a) to (d):- The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has issued several orders and directives to curb the issue of unwanted spam SMS messages. These initiatives focus on controlling Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC) and ensuring better compliance with telecommunication regulations. Some of the significant orders and actions taken by DoT in this regard include:

1. Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2018 (TCCCPR 2018) issued by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to curb Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC), enable the telecom subscribers for registering preferences for receiving commercial communications in the Preference Register popularly known as 'Do Not Call Registry'.

2. A separate series (140xxx) is allocated to Telemarketers (TMs) for making commercial calls which enables subscribers to know about the incoming commercial calls and take decision whether to respond or not to such calls.

3. Access service providers are required to act against the UTMs including giving warning, putting them under usage cap or disconnecting in case of repeated violations.

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