

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3866**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 11.12.2019

**SAFETY AND SECURITY OF MOBILE APPLICATION**

**3866. MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:**

Will the Minister of Electronics & Information Technology be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has taken any step to ensure safety and security of mobile application;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to make these applications free of obscene content and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)

(a) and (b): Government has taken following measures to check malicious applications and enable users to protect their mobile phones:

- (i) Alerts and advisories about the threats and vulnerabilities affecting mobile phones along with countermeasures are being issued regularly by the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In).
- (ii) Security tips have been published to enable users to secure their mobile/smart phones by CERT-In
- (iii) Government has operationalised the Cyber Swachhta Kendra (CSK) to enable detection and cleaning of malicious code including from mobile / smart phones.
- (iv) Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology regularly conducts programs to generate information security awareness. Tips for users about information security including securing mobile phones are disseminated through websites like “[www.infosecawareness.in](http://www.infosecawareness.in)”, “[www.cert-in.org.in](http://www.cert-in.org.in)” and “[www.cyberswachhtakendra.gov.in](http://www.cyberswachhtakendra.gov.in)”.

(c): Mobile applications, for user generated content, are intermediaries as defined in the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000. The intermediaries have exemption from liability subject to certain conditions as specified in section 79 if they follow due diligence. The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules, 2011 notified under this section require that the intermediaries shall observe due diligence while discharging their duties and shall inform the users not to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit, update or share any information that is, *inter alia*, defamatory, obscene, pornographic, paedophilic and unlawful in any way. They are also required to remove any unlawful content relatable to Article 19(2) of the Constitution of India as and when brought to their knowledge either through a court order or through a notice by an appropriate government or its agency.

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