

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3665**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 17.03.2021

**DIGITAL SAFETY CURRICULUM ONLINE HARASSMENT OF WOMEN**

**3665. SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI**  
**SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has provided any guidelines/inputs to the Ministry of Education on including digital safety curriculum in schools as well as colleges and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has issued any guidelines to social media intermediaries to counter online harassment of women and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has conducted any security trainings for women to deal with online threats during the pandemic and if so, the details thereof and if not, the details of plans by the Government, if any, to deal with the same?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has developed Information and Communication Technology (ICT) curriculum for teachers and students in school education. As a part of this curriculum, safety, security and ethics in the cyber world are being introduced as separate chapters in ICT, IT and Computer Science textbooks for class 9 to 12. The cyber safety components have also been introduced into the course content of ICT curriculum for students till class 8. Ministry of Home Affairs has published a handbook for Adolescents/Students on Cyber Safety, in order to make them aware about various types of cyber-crimes and how to protect themselves from such crimes. This handbook is available on [www.mha.gov.in](http://www.mha.gov.in) and [www.cybercrime.gov.in](http://www.cybercrime.gov.in). This handbook is also shared on NCERT website by Ministry of Education.

Under Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) Project Phase II implemented by the Ministry, so far 68,251 candidates have been trained/under-going training in various formal/non-formal courses in information security through 52 institutions (further, 5 Technical Universities participating under the project have reported around 2.74 lakh candidates as trained/under-going training in formal courses in their respective affiliated colleges).

Further, as a part of awareness activity under ISEA Project Phase II, 792 awareness workshops on information security have been organized through direct/virtual mode for school and college students covering 1,30,199 participants. Awareness material in the form of handbook, posters, brochures, videos, etc. are also made available for download on the website [www.isea.gov.in](http://www.isea.gov.in) and [www.infosecawareness.in](http://www.infosecawareness.in).

(b): The social media platforms are intermediaries as defined in the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000. The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, notified under the IT Act, specifies 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, inter alia, obscene, pornographic, paedophilic, harmful to children in any way or violates any law for the time being in force, etc. The Rules provide for a robust grievance redressal mechanism as also reporting and expeditious removal of content breaching bodily privacy, sexually explicit or morphed imagery of the individual concerned.

(c): Under the ISEA Project Ph.-II, during the pandemic, 98 online awareness workshops on Information Security have been organized covering 24,558 participants, which inter-alia includes an estimated 40% women participants (approx.). Three handbooks on information/cyber security awareness exclusively for women on the topics of 'Online Safety tips for Working Women @ Home', 'Information Security Awareness for Women - Basic things you need to

know & External threats in the cyber world’ and ‘Digital Parenting -A Guide for Responsible use of Digital Resources by family’ have been shared with various stakeholders. Awareness material in the form of handbooks, posters, brochures, short-videos, etc. was provided for ‘eRakshabandhan’ and ‘CybHER’ initiatives organized by CID, Andhra Pradesh and Women Safety Wing, Telangana Police to create awareness exclusively for women and children in respective States.

\*\*\*\*\*