

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2613**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2019

**DEEPFAKE TECHNOLOGY**

**2613 MS. S. JOTHIMANI:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the recent development in “Deepfake technology” and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto along with the measures taken by the Government to prevent its misuse; and
- (b) the salient features of the proposed National Programme on Artificial Intelligence especially with regard to tackling fake news?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a): Yes, Sir. Government is aware of “Deepfake Technology” which enables to allow alter/create the image or video media of a person with any other person’s image or video using artificial neural networks and deep learning/machine learning techniques. The following measures have been taken by government to address such challenges of misinformation and rumours spreading via online platforms:

- (i) Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) and Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) are in regular touch with various social media platforms to effectively address the issue of removal of objectionable content, under the provisions of IT Act 2000.
- (ii) Based on our emphasis, Social media platforms have implemented initiatives to address the issue of fake news on their platform, such as limiting forwards and promoting fact checking.
- (iii) MeitY through a program, namely, Information Security Education & Awareness (ISEA), has been creating awareness among users and advising them not to share rumors/fake news. A dedicated website for information security awareness (<https://www.infosecawareness.in>) provides relevant awareness material.
- (v) MHA has created a Twitter Handle “Cyber Dost” to spread awareness on cyber safety and cyber security. MHA has also published a Handbook for Adolescents/Students on Cyber Safety.

(b): The following are the major objectives of the proposed National Programme on Artificial Intelligence; with regard to tackling fake news:

- To establish a sustainable ecosystem for Artificial Intelligence in the country

- To facilitate AI innovation, evolution, wide spread use and implementation on bringing its benefits to citizens by preparing standards and enabling reforms including requisite changes in policies and laws
- To foster research and development in Artificial Intelligence and related technologies
- To build the capabilities in Artificial Intelligence at National and State level
- To bring out the global best practices and successful use cases for Indian Context
- To promote responsible AI deployment for the masses and generate public awareness

\*\*\*\*\*