GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1692
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 09.03.2018

SECURE PLAN TO CONTROL INFORMATION AND DATA

1692. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a)   to what extent the Ministry has been able to ensure security of information and data it handles;
(b)   how the private concerns became real controllers of data; and
(c)   whether Government has any secure plan to control this field, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a)   and (b) : The Information Technology Act, 2000 provides for security of sensitive personal data, penalty for breach of confidentiality and privacy, and punishment for disclosure of information in breach of lawful contract under the provisions of Section 43A, section 72 and section 72A.

Government has implemented various IT Projects, which are based on Guidelines/Standards. These Guideline/Standards are evolved in consultations with subject matter experts after due deliberations. Certain security measures have been incorporated in these Guideline/Standards, which ensure the security of information and data.

Further, Government websites host information for public dissemination and no sensitive information is hosted on such portals. As per the guidelines of the Government, the computer systems with sensitive information are isolated from the Internet. Also, user level access control is built-into the systems so that only users with suitable rights can access information intended to them.

Ministry's data is managed by Government entities. There are adequate safeguards maintained in case of outsourcing to private concerns.

(c) : Government has set up a Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of Justice (Retd.) Shri B N Srikrishna to prepare a data protection framework and work out the Data Protection Bill. The Committee has prepared a White Paper on "Data Protection Framework for India" which has been published on Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology

(MeitY) website soliciting public comments. The public comments received are being collated and analyzed by the Expert Committee.

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