GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1832

TO BE ANSWERED ON: 17.03.2017

CHANGE IN CYBER SECURITY LAWS

1832 SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI:

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

- (a) the changes, if any envisaged in cyber security laws in view of recent breach of ATM card data of 3.2 million customers stolen last year from a network of Yes Bank Ltd. ATMs:
- (b) the steps taken to set up/improvise legal redressal mechanisms in cyber security issues;
- (c) whether any report of enquiry was submitted with regard to this incident, if so, the steps taken based on these reports, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of policy changes, if any, envisaged by Government with respect to security of digital payments interfaces?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) and (b): The Information Technology Act, 2000 (with its amendments in 2008), provides comprehensive legal framework to deal with the present day cyber security breaches.

Security Incidents are brought to the knowledge and are handled by Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) created under section 70B of the IT Act. CERT-In issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats and countermeasures on regular basis.

In addition, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) carries out IT Examination of banks separately from the regular financial examination of banks, with special focus on cyber security. The findings are issued to the banks for remedial action. Department of Banking Supervision under RBI also conducts cyber security preparedness testing of banks on the basis of hypothetical scenarios with the help of CERT-In.

- (c): As reported by RBI, in the specific incident of breach of ATM card data, an enquiry, through a third party, was conducted by the service provider whose ATM infrastructure was affected. Certain vulnerabilities were observed. The report stated various actions, which have been/ need to be taken by the ATM service provider to address the vulnerabilities. Banks have taken corrective action by either replacing the cards or resetting PINs.
- (d): There is no proposal with the government to amend the IT Act at present. However, Government is working on developing rules for security of Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs). The draft rules have been published on MeitY website inviting comments from public at large and other stakeholders.
