GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1940
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 05.12.2019

REGULATIONS TO MONITOR THE DARK WEB AND DEEPFAKES

1940.   **SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE:**

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

(a) whether the Ministry has any systematic regulations in place to monitor the dark web;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Ministry has any plans to prevent the spread of deepfakes in India?

ANSWER

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

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): There are adequate legal provisions to prevent the spread of deepfakes. Section 66C and 66D of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides punishment and fine for identity theft and cheating by personation by using computer resource.

Government has taken several steps to prevent the spread of deepfakes. These, *inter alia*, include :

(i)   Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) and Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) as well as Police are in regular touch with various social media platforms to effectively address the issue of removal of objectionable content.

(ii)   MeitY took note of media reports about spread of fake news, misinformation/disinformation on Internet particularly using social media platforms. Social media platforms have implemented a number of steps to address the issue of fake news propagated using their platform.

(iii) MeitY through a program, namely, Information Security Education & Awareness (ISEA), has been creating awareness among users highlighting the importance of following the ethics while using Internet. A dedicated website for information security awareness (https://www.infosecawareness.in) provides all the relevant awareness material.

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