GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1643

TO BE ANSWERED ON: 05.03.2020

PERILS OF DEEP FAKE TECHNOLOGY

1643. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware of the perils of Deep Fake technology which is often used for political purposes and harassment of women;
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry is working towards introducing criminal recourse for victims;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a): Ministry is aware of the perils of deep fake technology. There are adequate legal provisions to prevent the spread of deep fakes. 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.
- (b) to (d): Government has taken 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 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 relevant awareness material.
