GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 201
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 7.12.2022

ONLINE FINANCIAL FRAUDS

201. SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT:
SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:

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

(a) whether the Government has taken note that incidents of online financial frauds including withdrawal of money through social media, message and other electronic means are increasing in the country on daily basis during the last three years;
(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise along with the action taken and money retrieved during the said period;
(c) whether the Government has formulated any plan to check such cyber crime; and
(d) if so, the details thereof along with the achievements made so far after implementation of such a plan?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR)

(a) and (b): The policies of the Government are aimed at ensuring an Open, Safe and Trusted and Accountable Internet for its users. With the expansion of the Internet and more and more Indians coming online, the number of Indians exposed to online financial frauds has also grown. The many challenges in securing cyberspace against online financial frauds also flow from its vastness and borderless nature. As per the National Crime Records Bureau, 6,229, 10,395 and 14,007 cases were registered under the category "Fraud for cybercrime" during the years 2019, 2020 and 2021 respectively. State/UT-wise details of cases registered under the said category and action taken in respect of these, during the years 2019 to 2021, as provided by the Bureau, are at Annex. State/UT-wise details of money retrieved are not centrally maintained.

The Information Technology Act, 2000 ("IT Act") penalises various offences relating to the cyberspace, including tampering with computer source documents (section 65), dishonestly or fraudulently accessing a computer resource without the permission of its owneror person in charge (section 66), identity theft (section 66C), cheating by impersonation (section 66D), etc. These offences are in addition to the penal provisions under the Indian Penal Code for various offences relating to fraud. Such offences are cognizable offences. As per the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, prevention and investigation of cognizable offences is to be done by the police, and as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, 'Police' is a State subject. As such, States are primarily responsible for the prevention, investigation etc. of such offences through the State police departments, which take preventive and penal action as per law.

(c) and (d): Government has taken a number of measures to check cybercrime. These include the following:

(i) The Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) under the Ministry of Home Affairs has been designated as the nodal point in the fight against cybercrime. A toll-free number 1930 has been made operational for citizens to get assistance in lodging online complaints in their own language. To spread awareness on cybercrime, the Ministry of Home Affairs has taken several steps that include dissemination of messages on cybercrime through the Twitter handle @cyberDost and radio campaigns.
(ii) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has formulated a Cyber Crisis Management Plan for countering cyber-attacks and cyber terrorism for implementation by all Ministries and Departments of the Central Government, State Governments and their organisations and critical sectors.
(iii) CERT-In operates an automated cyber threat exchange platform for proactively collecting, analysing and sharing tailored alerts with organisations across sectors for proactive threat mitigation actions by them.
(iv) CERT-In has empanelled 150 security auditing organisations to support and audit implementation of Information Security Best Practices.
(v) Cyber security mock drills are being conducted to enable assessment of cyber security posture and preparedness of organisations in the Government and critical sectors. 74 such drills have so far been conducted by CERT-In, in which 990 organisations from different States and sectors participated.
(vi) CERT-In operates the Cyber Swachhta Kendra (Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre) to detect malicious programs and free tools to remove the same, and to provide cyber security tips and best practices for citizens and organisations.
(vii) CERT-In has set up the National Cyber Coordination Centre to generate situational awareness regarding existing and potential cyber security threats.
(viii) CERT-In also co-operates, works and coordinates incident response measures with international CERTs, overseas organisations and service providers as well as law enforcement agencies.
(ix) CERT-In provides leadership for the Computer Security Incident Response Team-Finance Sector (CSIRT-Fin) operations under its umbrella for responding to and containing and mitigating cyber security incidents reported from the financial sector.

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Annex referred to in the reply to Lok Sabha unstarred question no. 201, to be answered on 7.12.2022

Details of cases registered under the category "Fraud for cybercrime" and action taken in respect of these
(includes credit/debit card frauds, ATM frauds, online banking frauds, OTP-related frauds and other frauds)

S. no.	States	Cases registered			Cases charge-sheeted			Cases convicted			Persons arrested			Persons c shee	
		2021	2020	2019	2021	2020	2019	2021	2020	2019	2021	2020	2019	2021	2020
1	Andhra Pradesh	952	764	703	82	57	36	3	2	0	64	76	68	100	8
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	
3	Assam	82	58	83	18	17	32	0	0	0	194	18	58	44	
4	Bihar	1373	1294	1008	402	569	276	2	0	4	944	634	993	484	6
5	Chhattisgarh	67	71	35	17	15	14	0	0	0	32	35	25	32	
6	Goa	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
7	Gujarat	208	205	107	68	25	53	0	0	0	194	57	242	196	
8	Haryana	52	36	107	26	7	6	0	0	0	102	18	8	102	
9	Himachal Pradesh	6	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	2	
10	Jharkhand	79	83	18	4	1	2	0	1	2	6	2	2	6	
11	Karnataka	6	0	7	3	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	1	3	
12	Kerala	16	6	14	5	1	7	0	0	0	7	5	12	5	
13	Madhya Pradesh	89	69	25	40	16	6	0	0	1	103	47	14	106	
14	Maharashtra	1678	2032	1681	214	102	144	9	0	0	453	326	289	327	1
15	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
16	Meghalaya	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
19	Odisha	1205	1079	956	74	60	58	0	0	0	64	74	70	93	
20	Punjab	29	16	35	5	1	4	0	0	0	15	14	29	11	
21	Rajasthan	371	332	324	55	21	14	0	0	1	108	29	17	94	
22	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
23	Tamil Nadu	107	5	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	2	19	0	
24	Telangana	7003	3316	282	579	469	91	3	202	2	743	582	172	994	5
25	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
26	Uttar Pradesh	614	837	813	216	304	367	13	16	8	322	375	503	285	3
27	Uttarakhand	0	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	
28	West Bengal	40	145	0	2	19	0	0	0	0	3	8	0	2	1
	Union territories														
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
30	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
32	Delhi	19	31	11	4	2	7	0	0	0	106	21	16	102	
33	Jammu and Kashmir	8	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
34	Ladakh	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

36	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Total	**14,007**	**10,395**	**6,229**	**1,815**	**1,688**	**1,119**	**30**	**221**	**18**	**3,503**	**2,332**	**2,539**	**2,988**	**2,2**

Source: National Crime Records Bureau