

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1549
TO BE ANSWERED ON : 10.12.2021

**CYBERATTACKS ON GOVERNMENT AND
NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS**

1549. SHRI M. V. SHREYAMS KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has noted certain cyberattacks in the country on organisations including Government and Non-Government organisations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including conspiracy involved; and
- (c) the steps taken to avoid such attacks in future?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): The Government is well aware of cyber security threats as the Internet expands and more & more Indians get connected and use Internet. Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) is mandated to track and monitor cyber security incidents in India. CERT-In has reported that a total number of 1158208 and 1213784 cyber security incidents are observed during the year 2020 and 2021 (upto October) respectively. Out of this, a total number of 54314 and 32736 cyber security incidents were related to Government organizations during the year 2020 and 2021 (upto October) respectively.

(c): Government is fully cognizant and aware of various cyber security threats; and has taken following measures to enhance the cyber security posture and prevent cyber-attacks:

- i. The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats/vulnerabilities and countermeasures to protect computers and networks on regular basis.
- ii. Government has issued guidelines for Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) regarding their key roles and responsibilities for securing applications / infrastructure and compliance.
- iii. All the government websites and applications are audited with respect to cyber security prior to their hosting. The auditing of the websites and applications is conducted on a regular basis after hosting also.
- iv. CERT-In conducts regular training programmes for network / system administrators and Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) of Government and critical sector organisations regarding securing the IT infrastructure and mitigating cyber-attacks. 15 and 17 training programs were

conducted covering 708 and 4801 participants during the year 2020 and 2021 (till October 2021) respectively.

- v. Government has formulated a Cyber Crisis Management Plan for countering cyber-attacks and cyber terrorism for implementation by all Ministries/ Departments of Central Government, State Governments and their organizations and critical sectors.
- vi. Cyber security mock drills are conducted regularly in Government and critical sectors. 61 such drills have so far been conducted by CERT-In where 600 organisations from different States and sectors participated.
- vii. Government is operating the Cyber Swachhta Kendra (Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre). The centre is providing detection of malicious programs and free tools to remove the same.
- viii. Government has set up the National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC) to generate necessary situational awareness of existing and potential cyber security threats. Phase-I of NCCC is operational.
- ix. CERT-In co-operates, works and coordinates incident response measures with international CERTs, overseas organisations and service providers as well as Law Enforcement Agencies.
- x. National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) provides near real time threat intelligence and situational awareness based on which regular alerts and advisories are sent to Critical Information Infrastructure (CII) / Protected System (PS) entities.
- xi. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has issued National Information Security Policy and Guidelines (NISPG) to all Ministries and Government Departments for implementation.
- xii. To deal with cybercrimes in a coordinated & comprehensive manner, Government has launched the online National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal, 'www.cybercrime.gov.in' to enable citizens to report complaints pertaining to all types of cyber crimes with special focus on cyber crimes against women and children.
