GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 735
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 21.07.2017

AUGMENTING CYBER SECURITY

735   DR. R. LAKSHMANAN:

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

(a) whether Government considers any need to improve and augment cyber security after the recent ransomware threat to digital infrastructure in the country, and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): Propagation of ransomware called WannaCry has been reported in many countries around the world including India since 12 May 2017. In tune with the dynamic nature of Information Technology, continuous efforts are required to be made to prevent and recover from cyber attacks. As such, the protection of Information Technology infrastructure is a dynamic activity and continuing process.

The following steps have been taken by the Government to prevent cyber attacks and enhance cyber security:

i.   The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats/vulnerabilities and countermeasures to protect IT systems and mobile devices.
ii. Government has launched 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 for banks as well as common users.
iii. Government has formulated 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.
iv. Cyber security mock drills are being conducted regularly to enable assessment of cyber security posture and preparedness of organizations in Government and critical sectors. 15 such drills have so far been conducted by CERT-In where 148 organisations from different states and sectors such as Finance, Defence, Power, Telecom, Transport, Energy, Space, IT/ITeS, etc participated.
v.   Government has empanelled 54 security auditing organisations to support and audit implementation of Information Security Best Practices.
vi. Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MEITY) regularly conducts programs to generate information security awareness. Specific books, videos and online materials are developed for children, parents and general users about

information security which are disseminated through Portals like "http://infosecawareness.in/" and "www.cyberswachhtakendra.in"

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