GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2329
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 04.08.2017

NATIONAL ENCRYPTION POLICY

2329   **SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI**

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

(a) the current status of the National Encryption Policy;
(b) the details of consultations with expert and other stakeholders that have taken place on the policy;
(c) whether the Government will undertake public consultation on the same, if so details thereof;
(d) whether encryption policy is likely to figure in the outcome and policy document for the Global Conference on Cyberspace, 2017;
(e) the details of the proposed outcome and policy document for the Conference and how is the Conference likely to benefit cyber security space in India; and
(f) whether different stakeholders would be allowed to participate in this Conference?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) : Government respects the need for protection of information, privacy, critical information infrastructure and online digital transactions. It also acknowledges the importance of addressing national security threats including the concerns of law enforcement agencies during investigation. Taking into account national security concerns and technology trends, Government has initiated steps to revise the encryption policy in consultation with all stakeholders, including industry and public, to arrive at a balanced and holistic encryption policy. In this regard, the Government has set up a Committee of Experts with the objective to explore possible approaches to protect the integrity of encryption technology, promote strong encryption, while also enabling lawful access to the plain text information corresponding to encrypted information in order to ensure public safety and national security.

The Committee has devised steps to consult major industry associations and reputed vendors on the requirement of required encryption level by industry as well as requirement of law enforcement agencies.

(d) and (e): Global Conference on Cyber Space (GCCS) is a prestigious global event where international leaders, policymakers, industry experts, think tanks, cyber wizards etc. gather to deliberate on the issues and challenges for optimally using cyber space. The overall goals of GCCS 2017 are to promote the importance of inclusiveness and human rights in global cyber policy, to defend the status quo of an open, interoperable and unregimented cyberspace, to create political commitment for capacity building initiatives to address the

digital divide and assist countries, and to develop security solutions in a balanced fashion that duly acknowledge the importance of the private sector and technical community.

The schedule of program is yet to be finalized.

(f):   Yes, Sir. Different Stakeholders will participate by invitation.

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