

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2172
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 05.01.2018

CURBING OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

2172 SHRI MAHESH PODDAR:

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

- (a) whether Government is taking any steps to curb child pornography in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ALPHONS KANNANTHANAM)

(a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. Government has taken the following steps to Curb Child Pornography/Online Sexual Abuse Materials (CSAM):

1. Government periodically blocks the websites containing extreme Child sexual abuse material based on INTERPOL's "worst of list" received through Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). CBI is the national nodal agency for Interpol in India. As on 20th Dec., 17, Department of Telecom (DoT) issued instructions to block 4694 number of such websites.
2. The government has issued an order to concerned Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to work out a suitable arrangement for receiving Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) list of CSAM websites/webpages on a dynamic basis and block access to child pornography webpages/ websites by 31.07.2017. Major ISPs have already submitted their compliance statement.
3. DoT has communicated to all ISPs requesting them to make suitable arrangement to spread awareness among their subscribers about the use of Parental Control filters in the end-user machines through messages of email, invoices, SMS, website, etc.
4. Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has issued guidelines on 18.08.2017 to schools on the safe and secure use of Internet. This circular directs schools to install effective firewalls, filtering and monitoring software mechanisms in all the computers and deploy effective security policies.
5. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is implementing a comprehensive central sector scheme, namely "Centre for Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Children (CCPWC)" with an outlay of Rs. 195.83 crore to handle all issues related to check all cyber-crime against women and children including child pornography.
6. National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has published a booklet on "Child Victims of Cyber Crime – Legal Tool Kit" as a guide for investigating officers for better understanding of the cyber crime related laws in simple language.
7. Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) E-box was opened on 23.06.2017 for lodging complaints related to cybercrime targeting children.

Presently it also handles issues related to cyber bullying, cyber stalking, morphing of images & child pornography. Child victims of cyber crimes can now lodge their complaints at E-box through its Mobile app available at Google/Apple Play Store. A link has also been provided at NCPCR website www.ncpcr.gov.in
