

Steps to check cyber crimes

1082. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has been ranked fifth in the World's cyber crime-ranking during the year 2009;
- (b) if so, whether it is true that cyber criminals are increasingly using web-based attacks to steal vital information about credit cards and bank accounts;
- (c) if so, the steps taken by Government to check cyber crimes in the country and bring culprits to book;
- (d) whether existing cyber crime laws will be made more stringent to prevent such crimes in the future; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) According to Department of Information Technology (DIT), as per a report released by a US Company Symantec (for the year 2009) dated April 2010, malicious activity by country has been mentioned wherein India is ranked at No. 5.

Such reports on cyber security trends are released by various Antivirus and software companies. The findings of such reports by security vendors are generally based on the data generated by their products and vary drastically in their findings. The details of research data is not shared by them and hence cannot be verified.

(b) According to the Department of Financial Services and DIT, the number of online frauds has increased over the last three years.

(c) to (e) In order to address the growing threat of cyber crimes in the country, Government has evolved an integrated approach with a series of legal, technical and administrative steps to ensure that necessary systems are in place to address the cyber crimes.

The Information Technology Act, 2000 as amended by the Information Technology (Amendment) Act, 2008 enforced on 27.10.2009 has been made more stringent. The Act has new provisions for dealing with various cyber crimes by way of punishments for cyber crimes such as sending offensive messages through communication services, dishonestly receiving stolen computer

resource or communication device, identity theft, cheating by impersonation by using computer resource, violation of privacy, cyber terrorism, publishing or transmitting obscene material in electronic form, publishing or transmitting of material containing sexually explicit act in electronic form, child pornography in electronic form.

The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (ICERT) scans the Indian Cyber Space to detect traces of any untoward incident that poses a threat to the cyber space. CERT-In performs both proactive and reactive roles in computer security incidents prevention, identification of solution to security problems, analyzing product vulnerabilities, malicious codes, web defacements, open proxy servers and in carrying out relevant research and development.

Department of Information Technology (DIT) has also initiated a programme on cyber forensics, specifically development of cyber forensic tools, training of the users, particularly police and judicial officers in use of this tool to collect and analyse the digital evidence and present them in a Court of Law. Further DIT along with ICERT and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAAC) is also involved in providing basic and advanced training of Law Enforcement Agencies, Forensic labs and judiciary on the procedures and methodology of collecting, analyzing and presenting digital evidence. DIT has set up cyber forensic training labs at CBI and Kerala Police and is planning to set up similar facilities at four States of North East, namely Assam, Meghalaya, Sikkim and Tripura.

Central assistance for cyclone Laila

1083. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of financial and other assistance sought by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh which was hit by cyclone Laila in May, 2010;
- (b) whether any Central team has been sent to assess the damage due to Laila in Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) if so, the findings of the Central team;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) what action the Ministry has taken so far to help the State of Andhra Pradesh to take up reconstruction and rehabilitation aspects to victims of Laila?