

Cyber attacks

1203. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that many Indian companies are losing several crores every year due to cyber attacks;

(b) if so, whether Government, in consultation with the State Governments, proposes to enact a law to check such cyber attacks;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) whether any separate wing is likely to be created to check such cyber attacks and also to prosecute the culprits involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) Cyber attacks such as phishing and information stealing software programmes, denial of service attacks are intended for conducting financial frauds wherein users' personally identifiable information such as credit card details etc. are stolen. Due to these incidents financial institutions (Banks) and users suffer financial losses.

Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance has reported online banking frauds worth Rs. 590.49 lakhs in the year 2009.

(b) and (c) The primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of all cases of crime, including cyber crimes, lies with the concerned State Government(s). The Union Government however attaches highest importance to the matter of prevention of crime. The information Technology Act 2000 is a Central Act to address cyber crimes and is applicable in all the States/Union Territories. The cyber crimes are technology driven crimes and with changing technologies new crimes need to be addressed. Aware of this fact, the Government has amended the Act and further strengthened the legal framework. The IT (Amendment) Act, 2008 which came into force from 27.10.2009 has special provisions for checking new forms of cyber crimes like phishing, identity theft, data privacy etc. The Act provides legal frame work to address the cyber crimes seen largely at present.

(d) The State Police Departments have set up separate cyber police stations/cells in many states/Union Territories which handle all the cyber crime cases including cyber attacks.

3640 post-paid connections to one company

†1204. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Idea Cellular Company had issued 3640 post-paid connections to a single person and his company, Limco Sales Corporation, Delhi;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.