GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1521
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 15.12.2023

CERT-IN PROBES INTO DATA LEAKS

1521.   SHRI SAKET GOKHALE:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a)   whether there were several reports of personal data leakages of Indian citizens from CoWIN vaccination data base by hackers online in January, 2021, June, 2021, December, 2022 and June, 2023 followed by statement of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare that CERT-In will probe the allegations/reports and submit a report thereon;

(b)   the status of said probe conducted by CERT-In; and

(c)   the action taken by the Ministry based on the results of the aforementioned probes?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR)

(a)   to   (c):   To ensure safety of the personal and biometric data of the citizens on the Co-WIN App /Portal, Ministry of Health and family Welfare (MoHFW) has taken following measures:

- Beneficiary can access vaccination details by registered mobile number through OTP authentication only.
- Mobile Numbers, Aadhaar Number & other Photo ID Card numbers of beneficiary are masked. Only last 4 characters are visible to users (service providers) of Co-WIN.
- Complete Co-WIN database is encrypted using "Encryption Algorithm" key to protect citizen data and data integrity is maintained for all vital information.
- Two factor authentication feature (Password & OTP) while login by the users (service providers) is put in place restricting unauthorised access to Co-WIN.

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