

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION. NO. 733
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 08.12.2023

PERSONAL DATA OF AADHAR REGISTERED USERS

733. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY:

Will the MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that a United States-based cyber security firm Resecurity in a report that claimed that personal data of around 81.5 crore Indians had been leaked to the dark web, which includes names, phone numbers, addresses, Aadhar and passport details of Aadhar registered users, which were available for sale online;
- (b) if so, whether Government has instituted any inquiry to ascertain the veracity of the said report;
- (c) if so, the outcome of any inquiry;
- (d) if not, reasons therefor; and
- (e) the specific measures that have been adopted by Government to protect the personal data of Aadhar registered users?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The policies of the Government are aimed at ensuring an open, safe, trusted and accountable internet for its users. Government is fully cognizant and aware of various cyber security threats and challenges and has taken various measures to prevent cyber-attacks to ensure data safety of the citizens. The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) received threat intelligence reports in October 2023, regarding personal data with samples claiming to be of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and notified ICMR of the same and suggested remedial measures. CERT-In coordinated incident analysis and provided inputs to law enforcement agencies. UIDAI has comprehensive measures in place to protect the personal data of Aadhaar number holders. It has implemented multi-layered security infrastructure with defence-in-depth concept to protect the Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR) database and continuously reviews/audits the same to protect UIDAI systems. Further, CIDR is declared as a protected system and the National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre provides security inputs on an ongoing basis to maintain its cybersecurity posture. UIDAI uses advanced encryption technologies for protecting data in transmission and storage.
