

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2145
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2000
CYBER CRISIS
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Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

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- (a) whether recent hacking of some major Internet sites has exposed the vulnerability of cyber security in India as well;
- (b) if so, the steps proposed to counter such assaults;
- (c) whether the Government have received any suggestion from agencies to deal with the cyber crimes as cognizable offences;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether advancement in technology has broken the barrier of time and space crimes and criminals have also changed; and
- (f) if so, the action taken by the Government to deal with the situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN)

(a) to (f): Internet is a global entity and knows no international borders. Certain internet sites in the country have been affected by hackers activity. It is difficult to pinpoint the geographical locations of such hackers. The hackers generally operate under some fictitious names or from some dormant sites. As the use of net is increasing, various security measures are taken to safeguard the internet sites. Technology and security practices are also moving rapidly. Depending upon the needs of security, various levels of securities are normally used to safeguard the internet sites. For important sites, which need to be effectively guarded, proactive procedures like firewalls are used to secure the network from infiltration. The other precautions which are followed include changing the system password and conducting security audit of the system regularly. The Information Technology Bill, 1999 which was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 16.12.1999 provides for penalty for various types of cyber offences including hacking.