

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4869

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VIRUS ATTACK WANING SYSTEM

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

- (a) whether some studies by web security agencies have indicated widespread prevalence of computer virus in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the major virus attacks encountered during the last three years and till date;
- (c) the remedial action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to set up virus attack warning system in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be set up?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) and (b): The vendors of Antivirus and security systems generally bring out reports regarding various types of viruses,worms, Trojans and Bots prevalent in cyber space in the country and elsewhere in the world. The widely spread viruses in cyber space in the country during last three years are Worms named MyDoom, Nyxem_e/Blackmal, Beagle,Mytob; Trojans named Banker, Nethell, BZub and Bots named Storm, Rbot and Spamthru.

(c), (d) and (e): Government of India has setup Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) to help users in the country to respond to and mitigate cyber security incidents and enhance security by promoting Security Best Practices. The important remedial and proactive measures taken by CERT-In to prevent virus attacks are:

- i) Regular issue of virus alerts, security alerts and advisories to prevent occurrence of cyber incidents and strengthen the security of computer networks and systems
- ii) Publishing of guidelines on Antivirus Policy and securing various types of computer systems
- iii) Conducting security workshops and training programs on regular basis to enhance user awareness
- iv) Dissemination of information through website regarding disinfection and prevention from viruses
- (v) Collaborating with Antivirus vendors to share information on latest virus threats and issue early warning to users to protect their systems from viruses. In cases of major virus outbreak, CERT-In provides disinfection tools with the help of Antivirus vendors. Further, the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides legal framework to prevent creation and spread of viruses.