

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2567

ANSWERED ON:17.08.2011

HACKING OF GOVERNMENT WEBSITE

Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao

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

- (a) whether the website of the Ministry of External Affairs has been hacked recently by Chinese hackers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

(a): The website of Ministry of External Affairs (www.mea.gov.in) hosted and maintained by National Informatics Centre (NIC) has not been hacked.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): The specific steps taken by Government in this regard are:

- i. All the new government websites and applications are to be audited with respect to cyber security prior to their hosting. The auditing of the websites and applications will be conducted on a regular basis after hosting also,
- ii. National Informatics Centre (NIC) has been directed not to host web sites which are not audited with respect to cyber security,
- iii. National Informatics Centre (NIC) which hosts the government websites is continuously engaged in upgrading and improving the security posture of its hosting infrastructure,
- iv. All the Ministries/ Departments of Central Government and State Governments are implementing the Crisis Management Plan to counter cyber attacks and cyber terrorism. v. The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats and countermeasures on regular basis.

The existing Government websites are periodically audited from security perspective and vulnerabilities found are plugged.