

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2277  
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2011  
SPAM MAILS  
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

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

- (a) whether about eight percent of mails originating in the country are spam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent the spam e-mails;
- (d) whether adequate cyber laws are in place to prevent such internet nuisance;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the action taken by the government to formulate strict laws in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

(a) and (b): Worldwide various organisations publish report on Internet Security covering aspects like spam e-mail originating from various countries including India, cyber threats and attack trend in the cyber space. Different methodology and technique for data collection are followed by these organisations. According to these International reports, the total email traffic worldwide categorized as spam is about 75-80%, in the year 2011. The share of spam e-mails originating from India is about 5-6 % of total worldwide spam e-mail traffic.

(c): Due to nature of Information Technology (IT) and cyber space offering anonymity and not restricted by geographical boundaries, the problem of spam mails could be minimized but cannot be eliminated completely. Compromised computer systems known as ``spam bots` are largely responsible for generating majority of spam mail traffic. The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) in coordination with the industry and service providers is working towards disablement of `spam bots` located in India to curb the spam sources.

(d), (e) and (f): The Information Technology Act 2000 has been amended by the Information Technology (Amendment) Act 2008 with effect from 27.10.2009. Section 66A of the Act provides for punishment for sending spam or unsolicited Email messages from communication services.