GOVERNMENT OF INDIA POWER LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:287 ANSWERED ON:13.12.2012 CYBER SECURITY IN POWER SECTOR Adhi Sankar Shri

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has given due cognizance to secure its power grids and other installations from various cyber threats:
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the present status of the proposal, if any, for setting up of a dedicated regulatory framework for cyber security in the power sector along with a body of cyber security auditors;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to align cyber security of power sector with the proposed National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre to protect critical infrastructure in the country;
- (d) if so, the details and the present status thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 287 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 13.12.2012 REGARDING CYBER SECURITY IN POWER SECTOR.

- (a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Government has taken cognizance to secure its power grids and other installations from various cyber threats. The Government has formulated crisis Management Plan for countering cyber attacks for implementation of all Ministries, Departments and critical sectors including the power sector. Department of Electronics & Information Technology, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology has put in place an institutional mechanism through an empowered nodal agency namely CERT-In (Computer Emergency Response Team India) under Section 70B of the Information Technology (Amendment) Act, 2000. CERT-In has empanelled information security auditors to carry out audits. In-line with the directives of CERT-In, Ministry of Power has constituted CERTs (Computer Emergency Response Team) for Thermal, Hydro and Transmission with NTPC, NHPC and PGCIL as respective Nodal Agencies. These nodal agencies regularly participate in mock drills carried out by CERT-In and have carried out cyber security audits of their organizations.
- (c) to (e): As per information from the Department of Electronics and Information Technology, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology the Government is engaged in setting up of NCIIPC. On receipt of advise/guidelines by National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) the same will be considered.