

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2374
ANSWERED ON:05.02.2014
CHEATING BY MATRIMONIAL WEBSITES
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a spurt in the incidents of cheating by matrimonial websites;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the preventive measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)

(a) and (b) Police and Public Order are State subjects under the Constitution and as such the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crimes including Cyber Crime and for prosecuting the criminals through Law Enforcement machinery within their jurisdictions.

Information on incidents of cheating by matrimonial websites is not maintained by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). However, a total no. of 146, 118 and 282 cases were registered in the year 2010, 2011 and 2012 respectively under Criminal Breach of Trust/Fraud under sections 405, 406, 408 & 409 of Indian Penal Code (IPC) related to Cyber Crime.

(c) Government has taken the following actions to prevent frauds by social networking sites and matrimonial sites:

(i) Government has notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules 2011 under Section 79 of the Information Technology Act. These rules require that the Intermediaries, including national and international social networking sites and matrimonial sites, shall observe due diligence while discharging their duties and shall inform the users of Computer resources not to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit, update or share any information that is harmful, objectionable, affect minors and unlawful in any way. The said rules also require the intermediaries to appoint Grievance Officers to address the grievances received from users and affected individuals/organizations as and when received by them.

(ii) Government issued an advisory on 17th August 2012 to all the intermediaries, including national and international social networking sites, advising them to take necessary action to disable inflammatory and hateful content hosted on their web sites on priority basis.

(iii) Government also conducts awareness campaign on the issue to educate users.

(iv) The Government is in regular dialog with the intermediaries including social networking sites for effective and efficient disablement of such content.