

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2814

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Cyber Fraud

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

- (a) the number of cyber fraud incidents reported during the last three years and the current year, State and year-wise;
- (b) the details of companies/persons booked and charged under the law for cyber fraud;
- (c) whether the existing laws are not stringent enough to punish the guilty;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by the Government to check cyber fraud and bring in stringent legislation;
- (e) whether the Government has any specific law regarding online payment through websites or companies; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the action taken by the Government to bring such legislation?

Answer

(a) and (b): With the proliferation of Information Technology and related services there is a rise in number of cyber breaches and cyber crime threats in the country like elsewhere in the world. The 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 relating to Cyber Crime cases, cyber incidents and banking frauds are registered/ maintained in the country by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) respectively. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) also registers such cases.

i) As per the data maintained by NCRB, a total of 259 cases, 747 cases and 1,178 cases were registered under forgery/cheating (section 420, 465, 468, 471 & 480 IPC) under cyber crimes during 2012, 2013 & 2014 respectively. State/UT wise cases reported, cases charge sheeted, cases convicted, persons arrested, persons charge sheeted and persons convicted under forgery/cheating (section 420, 465, 468, 471 & 480 IPC) under cyber crime during 2012-2014 is enclosed at Annexure -1. Data for the year 2015 is under compilation.

ii) Various cyber-attack techniques are used in combination while committing cyber frauds. Incidents of phishing involve creation of fake websites to trick users to divulge online credentials. As per the information reported to and tracked by Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) a total number of 955, 1122, 534 and 281 phishing incidents were reported during the year 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 (upto May) respectively. CERT-In works in coordination with Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and banks to track and disable phishing websites.

iii) As per the data made available by RBI, 8765, 9500, 13083 and 16468 cases related to Cyber Frauds (ATM/ Debit Card, Credit Card & Net Banking frauds) were reported by the banks during 2012-13,13-14,14-15 and 15-16 respectively.

iv) CBI has registered 56 cases (regular cases and Preliminary enquiry) during the last three years. This includes 11, 20 and 25 cases in the year 2013, 2014 and 2015 respectively.

(c) and (d): The Information Technology Act 2000 as amended in 2008 has adequate provisions to deal with prevailing Cyber Crimes. It provides punishment in the form of imprisonment ranging from two years to life imprisonment and fine / penalty depending on the type of Cyber Crime.

(e) and (f): There is no specific law regarding online payment through websites or companies. RBI has been issuing Master Circulars from time to time directing banks to follow Internet banking norms.
