GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS **RAJYA SABHA OUESTION NO 3759** ANSWERED ON **05.04.2017**

Online bullving and cyber threats

3759 Shri Partap Singh Bajwa

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an increase in online bullying and cyber threats (sexual and others), especially towards women in the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the details of punishment under the current law for such crimes; and
- (c) whether the current law on this matter is foolproof, if not, what steps have been taken/proposed to be taken to make the law more comprehensive and foolproof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a): The Ministry of Women and Child Development has created a dedicated email (complaintmwcd@gov.in) solely to address and resolve the issues of hateful conduct and stalking on social media platforms w.e.f. July, 2016. So far, 69 complaints have been received. Relevant issues have been sent to concerned authorities for necessary action. Complaints of serious nature are reported by Ministry of Women and Child Development to Twitter India and Cyber Crime Cells of the Police authorities.

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- (b): Information Technology Act, 2000 provides for punishment vide Section 66E regarding violation of privacy of any person, Section 67 regarding publishing or transmitting obscene material in electronic form, Section 67A regarding publishing or transmitting of material containing sexually explicit act, etc, in electronic form and section 67B regarding publishing or transmitting of material depicting children in sexually explicit act, etc, in electronic form.
- (c): Government has constituted an expert committee under the Chairmanship of Shri T.K. Vishwanathan, retired Law Secretary to study and examine the existing domestic cyber laws and international cyber laws and to suggest a roadmap for effective enforcement of cyber laws to tackle cyber crimes.
