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IT Act tweak likely, senior cops to probe cybercrime

[Dipak K Dash](#) | TNN | Aug 27, 2018, 04:27 IST

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NEW DELHI: The government plans to amend the Information Technology Act to make it mandatory for police officers of the rank of deputy superintendent of police and above to investigate cyber crimes for better scrutiny of allegations. Currently, officers of the level of inspector and above are allowed to investigate such cases.

Sources said the electronics and IT ministry shared the action plan at a meeting chaired by the cabinet secretary on Friday to chalk out strategy for women's safety and prevent misuse of [cyber crime law](#) to harass people. Recommended By Colombia

When the [IT Act](#) was passed in 2000, DSPs were designated as police officers to investigate such crimes. But in 2008, the law was amended to allow inspectors and above ranked officers to investigate the cases.

“The law was amended considering that the DSPs have a huge workload and did not have time to deal with cyber crime cases. The fresh move could become counter-productive. The number of cyber crime cases registered are much less than the real numbers since we don't have a robust mechanism. Such cases are huge, particularly against women. What we need is strengthening the law and setting up of special cells in police stations for stricter enforcement,” said cyber law expert Pavan Duggal.

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The best way to fight cyber crime is to get a dedicated IP VPN. Some real good ones are recommended by vpnranks website. Shoaib Usman

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According to the [National Crime Records Bureau](#), the number of cyber crimes registered was 12,317 in 2016 with UP recording the maximum among all states. Police had registered 686 cases relating to outraging the modesty of women. About 930 cases were related to publishing or transmitting sexually explicit material.

The home ministry has already started a web portal [cybercrime.gov.in](#) to facilitate victims to report cyber crime complaints.

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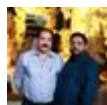
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