

Regarding need to bring legislation to regulate online gender based abuse and AI enabled offences alongwith establishment of Digital Safety Centre-Laid

SUSHRI S. JOTHIMANI (KARUR): The digital space has become increasingly unsafe for women, with gendered violence rising sharply while our legal framework remains fragmented and inadequate. Offences such as doxing and cyberstalking are scattered across multiple laws, and there are no clear provisions to address coordinated online harassment including mass trolling, abusive comment flooding, and organized digital intimidation. This allows many perpetrators to evade accountability. The threat has further intensified with the misuse of Artificial Intelligence. The explosion of non-consensual deepfakes and AI-generated intimate images has created a new and deeply harmful form of online violence. Yet the current IT Rules focus largely on content labelling and platform responsibilities, without offering the strong punitive and preventive measures urgently needed. At the same time, our grievance redressal mechanisms are slow, complex, and inconsistent. For women in rural and remote areas, limited digital access makes the process even more discouraging and inaccessible. I therefore urge the Honourable Minister to introduce comprehensive legislation that clearly defines and criminalizes all forms of online gender-based abuse, including AI-enabled offences. I also request the establishment of a single-window, easy-access Digital Safety Centre, integrated with local support systems, to ensure a swift, victim-centric, and technologically robust redressal mechanism.