

Information Technology Act, 2000

Section 66A - Punishment for Sending Offensive Messages Through Communication Service, Etc.

¹[66A. Punishment for sending offensive messages through communication service, etc. Any person who sends, by means of a computer resource or a communication device,-

- (a) any information that is grossly offensive or has menacing character; or
- (b) any information which he knows to be false, but for the purpose of causing annoyance, inconvenience, danger, obstruction, insult, injury, criminal intimidation, enmity, hatred or ill will, persistently by making use of such computer resource or a communication device,
- (c) any electronic mail or electronic mail message for the purpose of causing annoyance or inconvenience or to deceive or to mislead the addressee or recipient about the origin of such messages,

shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and with fine.

'Explanation.- For the purpose of this section, terms "electronic mail" and "electronic mail message" means a message or information created or transmitted or received on a computer, computer system, computer resource or communication device including attachments in text, images, audio, video and any other electronic record, which may be transmitted with the message.

1. Inserted vide Information Technology (Amendment) Act, 2008.
