

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.*257
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 15.12.2021

RESTARTING CHINESE APPS

***257. SHRI MALOOK NAGAR:**

Will the Minister of Electronics & Information Technology be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government proposes to restart the use of Chinese applications in the country which had been banned earlier and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any policy is under consideration of the Government to develop any google like browser in the country to check the increasing cyber crimes and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the continuous transmission of obscene materials through phone can be checked by the recently made rules/law for regulating web series, OTT, etc. and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

- (a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION
NO. *257 FOR 15-12-2021 REGARDING RESTARTING CHINESE APPS**

- (a): No, Sir. There is no proposal with the Ministry to revoke the blocking orders.
- (b): There are many internet browsers already available including open source browsers. Police is a State subject. For better regulation of cyber crimes, broader consensus with States is required.
- (c): Government has notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 under Information Technology Act, 2000, on 25th February, 2021. Part-III of these Rules *inter alia* provide for the following:-
- (i) Code of Ethics to be followed by publishers of news & current affairs on digital media and publishers of online curated content (commonly known as OTT Platforms).
 - (ii) A three-level Grievance Redressal Mechanism consisting of the publisher (Level-I), self-regulating body constituted by the publishers (Level-II) and an Oversight Mechanism of the Government (Level-III), with time bound grievance disposal mechanism.
 - (iii) Furnishing of information by the publishers to the Government and periodic disclosure of information regarding grievance redressal in public domain.
