

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1949
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 05.12.2019

GUIDELINES FOR SOCIAL MEDIA

1949. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that concerned over its wide misuse the Supreme Court of India has recently directed Government to frame guidelines for the social media;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what action Government has taken on the directive of the Apex Court?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) and (b): Social media sites are Intermediaries within the context of the Information Technology Act, 2000. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide its order dated 24th Sept. 2019 in Transfer Petition(s) (Civil) No(s). 1943-1946/2019 (FACEBOOK INC VERSUS UNION OF INDIA & ORS.), directed the Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) to file an affidavit within three weeks stating the stage of the process of updation of Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules, 2011 and the definite timelines in completing said process.

(c): In October 2019, Secretary, MeitY filed an affidavit before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India that process of notifying the Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines), Amendment Rules, 2018; is likely to be completed by 15th January, 2020.
