

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4703**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 24.03.2021

**LEAKING OF DATA FROM INDIGENOUSLY DEVELOPED APPLICATION**

**4703: DR. MOHAMMAD JAWED:**

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government can moderate content and/or activity on the Koo application and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of privacy concerns about the leaking of personally identifiable information such as e-mail, date of birth etc. from the said application and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any action to address such privacy concerns and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has prescribed any framework for maintaining information privacy and security for 'Atmanirbhar Apps' which are developed as a response to compromised privacy of foreign-origin apps; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)

(a): No, Sir. As defined under the Information Technology Act 2000, Koo is an intermediary. Government does not moderate content and/or activity on the Koo or any other similar application.

(a) to (e): Koo and any such application are intermediaries for third party content hosted, shared or transmitted on their platform. They are also body corporate as per the definition of IT Act. As Intermediary and body corporate, Koo has to follow the provisions of IT Act including the Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 and the Information Technology (Reasonable Security Practices and Procedures and Sensitive Personal Data or Information) Rules 2011, which inter alia include publishing of terms of usage and privacy policy.

The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats/vulnerabilities and countermeasures to protect computers, mobile phones, networks and data on regular basis.

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