

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1640**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 05.03.2020

**BLOCKING OF ONLINE CONTENT UNDER IT ACT**

**1640. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN:**

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

- (a) the number of times when Government has blocked access to online resources under Section 69A of the IT Act and the rules notified thereunder, in the last three years;
- (b) the details thereof;
- (c) whether the person or intermediary hosting the content has been sent a notice in each case to submit their reply and clarifications; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) and (b): The number of orders for blocking access to online information as per provisions of section 69A of Information Technology Act 2000 and its rules namely “*The Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information for Public) Rules, 2009*” during the last three years is as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>No. of blocking orders under the section 69A rules</b>	<b>No. of URLs ordered for blocking</b>
2017	10	1385
2018	18	2799
2019	40	3635

(c) and (d): As per provisions of the abovesaid Rules, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology issues notice to the concerned person or intermediary posting/hosting the URL, wherever possible, to appear or send their response, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting of the Committee for examination of request for blocking.

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