

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 384
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2021

NON-ADHERANCE OF IT LAWS

384. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR:

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

- (a) whether many number of social intermediaries are not adhering to changed IT Laws;
- (b) if so, the details of social media intermediaries and action taken thereon;
- (c) whether there is any Law to curb web portal/youtube channel etc.; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR)

(a) and (b) : The social media platforms are intermediaries as defined in the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000. In order to ensure accountability of social media platforms to users and enhanced user safety, Government has notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 under the Act that specifies the due diligence to be followed by all the intermediaries including the social media intermediaries.

Major Significant Social Media Intermediaries including Facebook Inc., Twitter inc., Google LLC (for Youtube), LinkedIn Corporation, ShareChat, etc., have informed this Ministry about commitment to comply with the above said Rules.

In case of non-compliance, the intermediaries including SSIMs shall lose their exemption from liability and rule 7 of above said Rules becomes applicable.

(c) and (d) : Section 69A of the IT Act, 2000 empowers Government to block any information generated, transmitted, received, stored or hosted in any computer resource in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign states or public order or for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognizable offence relating to above.
