

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOKSABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2973
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 03.08.2022

TERRORIST ACTIVITIES THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA

2973. SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the terrorist activities are being carried out by terrorist organizations through social media;
- (b) whether thousands of accounts have been created by such organizations on social media;
- (c) whether such accounts and their followers have been found involved in the terrorist activities and their propaganda in the country;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has taken any action to close such accounts; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): Government is aware of the risks and danger posed by growing phenomena of misuse of social media platforms by anti-national elements. Cyber space has the unique characteristics of being virtual, borderless and anonymous plays major role hence anyone can post, share, communicate anywhere across the world at any time.

This Ministry does not monitor any such content in the social media platforms except as reported and brought to the knowledge of this Ministry for action under section 69A of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000.

(c) to (e): MeitY has received numerous requests for blocking under section 69A of the IT Act, 2000 from various nodal officers to block URLs including accounts of various social media platforms for posting pro-terrorists content. MeitY, after following due process as envisaged in the Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information for Public) Rules, 2009 has blocked all such URLs including accounts of various social media platforms. The number of URLs including accounts blocked under section 69A that are specific to pro-terrorist is not maintained separately. Further, the Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) regularly monitors social media platforms for terrorism related activities and take action as per the existing legal provisions.
