

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1530
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2022

ACTION TAKEN UNDER IT RULES, 2021

1530. SHRI BINOY VISWAM:

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

(a) the number of appeals filed and pending cases by self-regulating bodies under Rule 13 of IT Rules, 2021;

(b) whether Government has any data of suspension of social media accounts under IT Rules, 2021, if so, month-wise and platform-wise from May 2021;

(c) whether Government has any data of removal of social media posts under IT Rules, 2021, if so, month-wise and platform-wise; and

(d) whether social media intermediaries can remove Government information and posts if it violates the community guidelines of such intermediaries, and whether such an occurrence has taken place?

ANSWER

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

(a): The matter relating to Grievance Redressal Mechanism under Part-III (meant for publishers of news and online curated content and administered by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting) of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 ("IT Rules, 2021") is sub-judice before Hon'ble Supreme Court.

(b) and (c): As per the information received from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB), the details of directions issued by the MIB for blocking under Rule 16 of IT Rules, are as under :

Month	YouTube	Twitter	Facebook	Instagram
Dec-2021	20	-	-	-
Jan-2022	35	2	1	2
Feb-2022	1	-	-	1
April-2022	38	3	2	-
Total	94	5	3	3

(d): As per the IT Rules, 2021, intermediaries are expected to remove any unlawful content as and when brought to their knowledge either through a court order or through a notice by appropriate government or its authorized agency. They are also expected to act on any information attracting provisions as stated in rule 3(1)(b) of the IT Rules 2021 as and when it comes to their knowledge. Significant Social media intermediaries are required to publish periodic data on posts removed or disabled by them.
