

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 389
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2021

FAILURE OF TWITTER TO COMPLY WITH IT RULES

389. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that social media intermediary Twitter has failed to comply with the IT Rules, 2021;
- (b) the details of other social media intermediaries who have not complied with the IT Rules; and
- (c) if so, the action Government has taken for this open defiance?

ANSWER

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

(a): The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 notified on 25th February 2021 have become fully effective from 26th May, 2021 including for additional due diligence to be followed by Significant Social Media Intermediaries (SSMI). On that day, Twitter was non-compliant. Subsequently, they have appointed Chief Compliance Officer and a Resident Grievance Officer as a contingent arrangement and have also informed the Ministry about physical contact address in India. They have also published the compliance report of June 2021.

(b) and (c): Major SSIMs, including Facebook, Google, Twitter, LinkedIn, WhatsApp etc., have informed this Ministry regarding appointment of Chief Compliance Officer, Nodal contact person and Resident Grievance Officer as well as their physical contact address in India. Major SSIMs have also started publishing monthly compliance report.

In case of non-compliance with the Rules, the intermediaries including SSIMs shall lose their exemption from liability under section 79 of IT Act and rule 7 of the above said Rules becomes applicable.
