

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1415
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 27.11.2019

TRACING OF WHATSAPP ROGUE MESSAGE

1415. SHRI S. MUNISWAMY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to introduce a mechanism to trace WhatsApp rogue messages and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether this mechanism will curb the circulation of such messages and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): WhatsApp is intermediary within the definition of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000. Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) had proposed to amend Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules, 2011 notified under section 79 of the IT Act, 2000. The proposed amendments were published on MeitY website on 24.12.2018. The proposed amendments, *inter alia*, included Intermediaries to enable traceability of the originator of the information which is expected to curb circulation of rogue messages,
