

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*278
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 19.03.2020

MONITORING OF SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES

***278. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the country has been witnessing usage of mobile phones and internet for committing crimes which are against the interest of the country;
- (b) whether Government has taken a decision to monitor all social networking sites; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *278 FOR 19-03-2020 REGARDING
MONITORING OF SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES**

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(a): Cyber space is a complex environment of people, software, hardware and services on the Internet. With a borderless cyberspace coupled with the possibility of instant communication and anonymity along with rapid growth in proliferation of mobile telephony, improvement in connectivity and development of new and convenient platforms there are certain miscreants who use mobile phones and internet for committing crimes like elsewhere in the world.

(b) and (c): Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology does not monitor content on social networking sites. Of late, Terrorists, extremists & groups involved in violence are seeking to abuse social media to foment trouble & violence. Of course this requires action and the Government blocks 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 as and when brought to Government's knowledge as per the provisions specified in section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 and the Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information for Public) Rules, 2009 notified under this section.
