

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1529
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 29.07.2022

SUSPENSION OF TWITTER ACCOUNTS

1529. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA:

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

- (a) whether Government requested Twitter to suspend any account or reduce visibility;
- (b) if so, the number of accounts suspended, year-wise, since 2017;
- (c) the Twitter handles of all accounts suspended since 2017; and
- (d) the reasons for suspension of each account?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) is empowered to block information which infringes the 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. For blocking of such information, MeitY follows the due process as specified in the Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information by Public) Rules, 2009.

In line with the objective of the Government to ensure an Open, Safe & Trusted and Accountable Internet for all its users, MeitY issued directions for blocking to Twitter to block URLs including accounts under provision of section 69A of the IT Act, 2000. The year-wise Twitter URLs blocked by MeitY is as tabulated below:

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022*
No. of URLs	588	225	1041	2731	2851	1122

*Till June 2022
