

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2334
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08.2022

ASSESSMENT OF EXISTING PROVISIONS UNDER IT RULES, 2021

2334. DR. AMAR PATNAIK:

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

- (a) whether Government has finalised the standard operating procedures to ensure seamless enforcement of the IT Rules;
- (b) whether Government has any plans to designate dedicated officers for seeking law enforcement assistance from intermediaries under the IT Rules;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any study to determine how traceability may be implemented without impacting user privacy;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) how many takedown orders and account blocking orders have been issued by Government since the promulgation of IT Rules, 2021 to various social media platforms, the platform-wise details thereof

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): Government's policies are aimed at ensuring Open, Safe & Trusted and Accountable Internet for its users. The Government has notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Codes) Rules, 2021 ("IT Rules, 2021") on 25th February, 2021 to make intermediaries including social media platforms accountable to their users and enhance user safety online. This Ministry, on 1st November, 2021, has also released an FAQ document to bring in clarity on issues concerning all stakeholders in simple and comprehensible language.

(c) and (d): Neither the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 nor the above said Rules contravene user's right to privacy.

(e): 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
