GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1791

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH MARCH, 2021/ PHALGUNA 19, 1942 (SAKA)

METHODOLOGY FOR CONTROLLING FAKE NEWS AND MISINFORMATION

1791.   SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the methodology of Government to control fake news and misinformation during tensions and riots, whether internet shutdowns are a prescribed method; and

(b) the kind of data being maintained on internet shutdowns in India, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a)&(b):   Challenges of cyber space are many, which flow from its vastness and borderless characters. Information in cyber space flows fast and has potential of misuse. During tensions and riots, suspension of telecom services / internet shutdown is done by the appropriate authorities in the States / UTs concerned in the interest of maintaining public safety and averting public emergency, as per procedures defined in the 'Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Amendment) Rules, 2020'. Centralized data of internet shutdown is not maintained by the Ministry of Home affairs. Orders issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) are available at MHA website.

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