

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1788
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2021

BLOCKED ACCOUNTS ON TWITTER

1788. SHRI MOHAMMED FAIZAL P.P.:

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

- (a) the yearwise details of the number of blocked accounts on social media platforms under Section 69A of the Information Technology (IT) Act since 2014;
- (b) the reasons for passing orders to block Twitter accounts of organisations like KisanEktaMorcha and The Caravan magazine in the month of February, 2021;
- (c) whether abovesaid accounts were chosen for their support to the ongoing farmers' protests; and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether a review committee undertook a review of the blocking orders as provided for in the Rules framed under the aforementioned Act; and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) : Under the provision of section 69A of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000, Government has directed for blocking of 471, 500, 633, 1385, 2799, 3635 and 9849 number of Accounts/URLs during the years 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020, respectively .

(b) and (c) : All the accounts/ URLs that are blocked by the government are based on the requests, received from the concerned designated Nodal Officers of the Ministries/ States, on specified grounds and following the due process, specified in the Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information by Public) Rules, 2009, notified under section 69A of the IT Act.

(d) : Ministry follows due process in all such directions.
