GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1353.
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 12TH FEBRUARY, 2021.

SALE OF PIRATED AND COUNTERFEIT GOODS IN INDIAN MARKETPLACES

1353 SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:
SMT. PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI:
SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the '2020 Review of Notorious Markets for Counterfeiting and Piracy', issued by the Office of the US Trade Representative which noted that four Indian marketplaces, including an e-Commerce site, are mentioned in the list of notorious markets for sale of pirated and counterfeit goods;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry is taking steps to address these findings;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details in terms of volume and monetary value of pirated and counterfeit Goods seized/taken down that were being sold on e-Commerce platform since 2016, year-wise and platform-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI SOM PARKASH)

(a) to (c): The Report on Review of Notorious Markets for Counterfeiting and Piracy (the Notorious Markets List) released by US Trade Representative on January 14, 2021, aims towards addressing concerns of American companies and consumers. The Government of India, is under no obligation to take action on such reports and maintains that India has a strong legal and judicial system, to counter such threats of counterfeiting and piracy. Several initiatives have been taken up for strengthening enforcement against counterfeiting and for creating strong legal deterrence.

Cell for IP Promotion and Management (CIPAM) has conducted more than 100 trainings and sensitization programs among Police, Customs and Judiciary to provide improved and coordinated response to industry concerns. In addition, an advisory has been issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, to all State Police Academies to incorporate IPR in their training curriculum for both regular and in-service police officers. An IPR Enforcement Toolkit for police has been created for this purpose in association with FICCI to help police officials in dealing with IP Crimes, in particular, trademark counterfeiting and copyright piracy. To counter online piracy, CIPAM collaborated with National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) and Maharashtra Cyber and Digital Crime Unit (MCDCU), to suspend over 380 infringing websites on the basis of incomplete KYC (or WHOIS norms). Apart from creating legal deterrence, a large number of awareness and sensitization programmes are carried out to encourage customers to buy original products and inform them about the consequences of buying fake and counterfeit products.

(d): No such detail with respect to volume and monetary value of pirated and counterfeit goods, that were being sold on e-commerce platforms is maintained.

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