

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1982  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23<sup>rd</sup> DECEMBER, 2022**

**STUDY TO ASSESS EFFICACY OF INTERNET SHUTDOWNS**

**1982 SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA:**

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Department of Telecommunications has commissioned a study to assess the efficacy of internet shutdowns in dealing with public emergencies as recommended by Standing Committee on Communication and Information Technology's report on Suspension of Telecom Services/Internet and its impact;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS  
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

(a) to (c) The contribution of internet for the well-being of citizens has to be balanced with social media platforms being misused by anti-social elements requiring temporary internet shutdowns as per the rules based on the assessment by Local (State/UT Government) Authorities. DoT has not commissioned any study to assess the efficacy of internet shutdowns in dealing with public emergencies.

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