

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1828  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023**

**CRITERIA FOR IMPOSING INTERNET SHUTDOWN**

**1828 SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:**

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of internet shutdowns initiated by Government in the last five years, yearwise and State/UT-wise;
- (b) the average duration of these internet shutdowns and the different reasons for which such internet shutdowns have taken place;
- (c) the details of the circumstances under which an internet shutdown is initiated by Government and for how long; and
- (d) whether the necessity for continuing the shutdown is monitored, if so, at what intervals and by whom?

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

(a) to (d) As per seventh schedule of the Constitution, police and public order are State subjects. Concerned State Governments are empowered to issue orders for temporary suspension of internet service to maintain law and order in the State or part thereof under the provisions contained in the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017. Permissions granted for internet shutdown to Delhi Police are available on MHA website.

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