

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 885**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2023

ACTION ON YOUTUBE CHANNELS RUNNING FAKE NEWS

885 DR. ANIL JAIN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of YouTube channels against which action has been taken by the Ministry for allegedly running fake news;

(b) the details of action taken against these channels;

(c) whether the Ministry is making or has made any law to ban the broadcast of fake news; and

(d) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry that some YouTube channels are involved in anti-national activities?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND
MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH
THAKUR):**

(a) to (d): The Government has notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rule, 2021 (IT Rules, 2021) under Information Technology Act which inter-alia provides for adherence of Code of Ethics by publishers of news and current affairs on digital media and publishers of online curated content (OTT Platforms) and three tier mechanism for redressal of grievance relating to Code of Ethics by them.

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has, since December, 2021, issued directions for blocking from public access of 635 URLs, including 120 YouTube based news channels under the provisions of Part-III of IT Rules, 2021 publishing content not found to be in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States or public order or for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognizable offence relating to the above, including fake news, in accordance with the provisions of Section 69 A of Information Technology Act , 2000.
