

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2317
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2025

FUNCTIONING OF FACT-CHECKING MECHANISM

2317. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:

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

- (a) the current status of establishment and functioning of the Fact Check Unit (FCU) under the Press Information Bureau ;
- (b) the mechanism adopted by the Ministry to identify, verify and act against online misinformation and fake news;
- (c) whether standard operating procedures or guidelines have been issued for coordination between Government Fact-Checking Units and social media intermediaries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether Government has taken measures to monitor and counter misinformation and hostile narratives, such as anti-India narratives, on online and social media platforms, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(DR. L. MURUGAN)

(a) to (e) A Fact Check Unit (FCU) has been set up under Press Information Bureau, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in November, 2019 with the objective to counter dissemination of fake news & misinformation pertaining to the Government of India.

Any complaints/fact check requests regarding news/information items circulating on matters pertaining to the Government of India can be sent to the WhatsApp Hotline- +918799711259, Email ID- factcheck@pib.gov.in and the website of PIB Fact Check Unit - <https://factcheck.pib.gov.in>.

The Fact Check Unit of PIB verifies the reported news/ content, as under:

- PIB Fact Check Unit takes suo-moto cognizance on fact checking as well as receives complaints on its website or WhatsApp Hotline.
- The Unit segregates the received information after ascertaining whether it falls within the ambit of the Fact Check Unit.
- After verifying the authenticity of the received information from authorized sources, the Fact Check Unit utilizes the Information, Education & Communication (IEC) strategy to create awareness through creative content fit for dissemination on social media platforms.
- FCU posts the fact checked and correct information on its social media handles.

The PIB Fact Check Unit (FCU) plays a key role in monitoring online content relating to the Government of India. During Operation Sindoor, the PIB Fact Check Unit actively countered misinformation and hostile narratives circulating online by promptly fact-checking false claims, providing authentic information, and ensuring accurate public communication, thereby helping prevent the spread of misleading and anti-India narratives.
