GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3484 TO BE ANSWERED ON 8TH AUGUST, 2018

INTERNET FILTERING SYSTEM

3484. SHRI RAM CHARITRA NISHAD:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian internet service providers have installed the highest number of internet filtering system and blocked the maximum number of web pages;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether an investigation has been conducted by overseas agencies in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details and the outcomes thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS & MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) & (b) Internet Service Providers implement blocking/filtering of Internet websites/Uniform Resource Locators (URLs)/webpages by using suitable technology as per technical requirements. As per Information Technology Act, 2000 [Section 69A] and Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information by Public Rules 2009 made thereunder, the directions for blocking for public access of any information including websites/ URLs/webpages is issued by Group Coordinator, Cyber Law Division, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY). As per the directions of MeitY, instructions for blocking of Uniform Resource Locators (URLs)/ websites/ webpages are issued by Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to Internet Service Providers (ISPs). Further, as per the direction of various Hon'ble Courts, instructions are also issued to Internet Service Providers for compliance of the court orders from time to time.

From 01st January 2016 to date, instructions have been issued by the Department of Telecommunications to ISPs for blocking of about 11045 websites/ URLs/webpages.

(c) & (d) No such report has been received by the Department.
