

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1543**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 19.12.2018

**MOBILE APPS**

**1543. SHRI BALABHADRA MAJHI:**

Will the Minister of Electronics & Information Technology be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details of the frequently growing mobile apps in the country;
- (b) whether there are guidelines in place regarding the extent of permissions which apps can seek from users, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether these app companies are using their platform to deliver pornographic content to its users in a clandestine manner, if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) whether the Government intends to appoint any regulatory authority for monitoring/regulation of these apps and if so, the time by which it is likely to be in place?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA)

(a) and (b): There is a huge growth of mobile Apps being developed in the world. Like websites, mobile Apps are also visible from anywhere across the world. There are no specific guidelines in place regarding the extent of permissions which apps can seek from users. These apps collect data from users based on their own terms & conditions and privacy policy as agreed by the users.

(c): No such incident has been reported to Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). However the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 provides legal framework for dealing with online obscene material including child sexual abuse. Sections 67, 67A and 67B of the IT Act provide punishment and fine for publishing or transmission of obscene material in electronic form.

(d): Government does not monitor/regulate content appearing on cyber space. There is no such proposal with MeitY at present.

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