

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1714  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2018)**

**DIRECTIVES TO SOCIAL MEDIA**

**1714. SHRI A. P. JITHENDER REDDY:**

**Will the MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has issued directives to social media platforms to establish mechanisms to remove illegal content, failing which such media platforms shall be punished;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of warnings issued on private and public-owned satellite TV Channels against lynching and mob violence following Ministry's advisory, Channel-wise and Screen Time Allocation-wise and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for not issuing a directive instead of issuing an advisory;
- (d) the details of the investigation carried out in the accident in Raigad district involving students of Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) and the actions taken thereto; and
- (e) the details of action taken following the National Commission for Women requesting the Ministry to direct print, publication and production houses to form an internal committee to probe complaints of sexual harassment at workplace?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
{COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (RETD.)}**

- (a) & (b) The Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology has informed that the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 and the rules therein namely "The Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules 2011" mandates intermediary platforms, including social media sites, to establish a mechanism to remove illegal contents failing which they may lose their immunity and become liable for punishment.

(c) In compliance with the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India judgement dated 17.07.2018 and 24.09.2018 in the WP(Civil) No.754 of 2016 in Tehseen S. Poonawalla vs. Union of India & others on the issues of lynching and mob violence etc., the Ministry had issued an advisory dated 28.09.2018 to TV Channels to run, as scrolls, following two messages in public interest:

'Mob violence and lynching is a heinous crime and invites serious consequences under the law'.

'Mob violence and lynching is a serious criminal offence and invites stringent punishment under the law'.

This Ministry has not issued warning to any private satellite TV channels on the issue of lynching and mob violence.

(d) The Ministry had constituted a Committee to inquire into the incident that occurred during the shoot of a diploma film on 29.09.2018 at Raigad Distt., Maharashtra. The Committee has given its report recommending remedial measures for action by FTII.

(e) The Ministry has requested (a) Press Council of India to issue necessary direction to all print media; and (b) all film production houses, to place an effective mechanism for addressing complaints of sexual harassment at workplace.

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