

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 373**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 05TH FEBRUARY, 2019/, MAGHA 16, 1940 (SAKA)

LYNCHING INCIDENTS

373. DR. K. GOPAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that the Government may sue WhatsApp for abetting lynching and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether WhatsApp has been requested to come out with more effective solutions that can bring in accountability and facilitate enforcement of law in addition to their efforts towards labeling such incidents and identifying fake news; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)**

(a) to (c): The Government has taken note of reports about spread of fake news, misinformation/disinformation on Internet particularly using WhatsApp platform. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology issued notices to WhatsApp conveying that they need to come out with effective solutions that can bring in accountability and facilitate enforcement of law in addition to labelling forwards and weeding out fake news. WhatsApp has conveyed a number of steps taken by them to address the issue of fake news propagated using their platform.

Meetings with Law Enforcement Agencies and Intermediaries are held on regular basis to strengthen the coordination framework for better enforcement of the law.