

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1695**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 02<sup>nd</sup> JULY, 2019/ ASHADHA 11, 1941 (SAKA)**

**ARREST OF JOURNALISTS**

**1695. SHRI RITESH PANDEY:**

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

**(a) the number of journalists arrested during the last ten years under the Information Technology Act;**

**(b) the number of journalists arrested under Section 66A of the Information Technology Act since the Supreme Court judgment in Shreya Singhal vs Union of India (2015);**

**(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent unlawful arrests made under defunct provisions of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Information Technology (IT) Act; and**

**(d) the reparations owed by the Government to citizens arrested unlawfully under defunct provisions of the IPC and the Information Technology Act?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

**(a) & (b): The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) does not maintain specific data on arrest of journalists.**

**(c) & (d): Central Government attaches highest importance to the safety and security to every citizen of the country including journalists. The existing laws for protection of citizens also cover journalists. 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India and State Governments are responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and for prosecuting the criminals through their law enforcement agencies. States & Union Territories and their law enforcement agencies are required to follow all provisions of law including that of Information Technology Act, 2000 and IPC.**