

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1036  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2022**

**BLOCKING OF YOUTUBE CHANNELS**

**1036. SHRI B. B. PATIL:**

**Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government had blocked many YouTube channels in the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether spreading false and unverified information were the reasons for the blocking of the said channels; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the incidents which prompted the Government to block these channels?**

## **ANSWER**

### **THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS**

**(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR):**

**(a) to (d): Under the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has issued directions for blocking of 104 YouTube news channels, 45 videos and 25 social media accounts/posts/apps/websites of digital news publishers. These directions were issued in accordance with the provisions of section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 which inter-alia empowers the Central Government to issue directions for blocking of content for public access in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States or public order or for preventing incitement to commission of any cognizable offence relating to such matters.**

**Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has blocked 1643 YouTube URLs during 2021 – 2022 (upto October, 2022) under the provisions of Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information by Public) Rules, 2009.**

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