

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3251
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03-2023

FAKE INFORMATION IN VARIOUS WEBSITES

3251. SHRI HEMANT SRIRAM PATIL :

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

- a) whether various websites and videos provide fake information about different Government scheme;
- b) if so, the details thereof; and
- c) the details of the action taken by the Government to put a check on the said websites and videos?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND
MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)**

(a) to (c) The Government has statutory and institutional mechanisms in place to combat fake news including the following:

- (i) Fact Check Unit setup under Press Information Bureau of this Ministry in November, 2019 takes cognizance of fake news both *suo-motu* and by way of queries sent by citizens and responds to the relevant queries with correct information.**

User complaints are received on:

- (a) Email id: socialmedia@pib.gov.in**
- (b) Website Portal: <https://factcheck.pib.gov.in>**
- (c) WhatsApp Hotline: 8799711259**

- (ii) For Electronic Media, all television channels are required to adhere to the Programme Code under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 in respect of all content broadcast by them. The Cable Television Networks (Amendment) Rules, 2021, has been notified on 17.6.2021 which provides for a three tier grievance redressal mechanism to look into the complaints relating to the violation of the Programme Code by the TV channels.**
- (iii) For news on digital media, the Government has notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rule, 2021 under Information Technology Act which inter-alia provides for adherence of Code of Ethics by publishers of news on digital media and also three tier mechanisms for redressal of grievance relating to Code of Ethics by them.**

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