

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4504
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28-03-2023**

CHECKS AND BALANCES FOR DECLARING A NEWS AS FAKE NEWS

4504: SHRIMATI MALA ROY:

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

- (a) the details of the checks and balances used before a piece of information is termed/declared fake news by the Government;
- (b) the number of times the Government has declared something as fake news despite the fact that the news was correct; and
- (c) the details of all such instances?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) A Fact Check Unit has been setup under Press Information Bureau of this Ministry in November, 2019 which takes cognizance of fake news both *suo-motu* and by way of queries sent by citizens on its portal or through e-mail and whatsapp. The unit responds to the relevant queries with correct information relating to subject concerning the Central Government. The Unit also maintains a twitter account @PIBFactcheck and posts cases of fake news, being busted, on the same on regular basis. The FCU works under FACT model i.e. Find, Assess, Create and Target. PIB Fact Check Unit has so far responded to 37,000 actionable queries and has busted over 1,160 fake news.

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