GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1457

TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2023

FINANCIAL HELP TO DIGITAL NEWS MEDIA ORGANISATIONS

1457. SHRIMATI CHINTA ANURADHA:

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

(a) the details of the financial assistance provided to the digital news media organisations in the country during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government has proposed a plan of sharing revenue between digital media organisations that provide content and Big Tech that provide the platform;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to lay down a code or procedure for this plan;

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government has taken any other measures to protect the deteriorating financial assistance of the digital news media organisatons; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (g): There is no scheme of the Central Government to specifically provide financial assistance to digital news organisation. The issue regarding sharing of advertising revenue by Big Tech Companies with digital news publishers have been raised by stakeholders with the Government. No decision has been taken to lay down any Code etc. for such revenue sharing arrangement.

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