

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3451**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 17.03.2021

**LEAKAGE OF OFFICIAL SECRETS**

**3451. SHRI KUMBAKUDI SUDHAKARAN:**

Will the Minister of Electronics & Information Technology be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government considers the WhatsApp chat between Republic TV Editor-in-Chief and former BARC Chief Executive Officer (CEO), which was leaked in public domain, a violation of official secrets and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted/ propose to conduct any inquiry into the said leakage of top secrets pertaining to national interest/security; and
- (c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI  
SANJAY DHOTRE)

(a) to (c): Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) does not administer Indian Official Secret Act, hence no inquiry has been conducted in the matter by MeitY. Further, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India and States are primarily responsible for prevention, detection and investigation through their law enforcement machinery. The Law Enforcement Agencies take legal action against the cyber-crime offenders as per the provisions of applicable laws.

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