

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1437
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2024**

AI TO DETERMINE FAKE NEWS AND DEEPPFAKE

1437. SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:

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

- a) whether the Government has defined 'fake news' in the light of Fact-Checking Units (FCUs) for taking down information;
- b) if so, the details thereof;
- c) whether the Government has any proposal to use Artificial Intelligence in order to determine fake news and deepfake;
- d) if so, the details thereof; and
- e) other measures being taken by the Government to check fake news and deepfake?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(DR. L. MURUGAN)**

(a) to (e) Fake news is commonly understood as information which is false or misleading and presented as news. The Government has statutory and institutional mechanisms in place to address fake news, on various media platforms.

A Fact Check Unit (FCU) has been set up under Press Information Bureau under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in November, 2019 to counter fake news relating to

the Central Government. After verifying the authenticity of news from authorised sources in Ministries/ Departments, FCU posts correct information on its social media platforms.

For Print Media, the newspapers have to adhere to “Norms of Journalistic Conduct” brought out by Press Council of India (PCI) which inter alia restrains publication of fake/defamatory/ misleading news. The Council holds inquiry into alleged violations of Norms, as per section 14 of the Act, and may warn, admonish or censure the newspaper, editors, journalists, etc. as the case may be.

Content on TV Channels is required to adhere to the Programme Code under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, which inter alia provides that no content which contains anything obscene, defamatory, deliberate, false and suggestive innuendos and half-truths is broadcasted on private satellite TV channels. The Cable Television Network (Amendment) Rules 2021, provides for a three-tier grievance redressal mechanism to look into the complaints relating to the violation of the Code by the TV channels. Appropriate action is taken where violation of Programme Code is found.

For the content of digital news publishers, the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 provides for a Code of Ethics.
