

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**  
**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*150**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2025**

**COMBATING DISINFORMATION ON OPERATION SINDOOR**

\*150. SHRI TEJASVI SURYA:

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

- (a) the details of steps taken by the Government to combat fake news, fake accounts and disinformation regarding the Operation Sindoor and Pahalgam terror attack;
- (b) the details of other measures taken by the Government to direct traditional media platforms such as TV channels and newspapers to be sensitive in their reportage of the Operation Sindoor;
- (c) whether the Government has issued any directives or taken action against any media platforms or individuals for their reportage or disinformation or spread of false news on the Operation Sindoor and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government is taking any other measures to protect the country from such disinformation campaigns in future and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE LOK  
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(a) to (d):

The Government takes all possible actions to control the spread of fake and misleading information with the available statutory and institutional mechanisms. During Operation Sindoor, it was observed that massive fake news, misinformation and propaganda campaigns were being run, mostly from outside India. Government took active steps to counter such misinformation campaigns:

**Providing authentic information:** Government of India held periodic media briefings and kept the media and citizens informed. Details of operations carried out by Defence forces were explained along with relevant audio-visuals and satellite imagery. These briefings provided authentic information.

**Inter-ministerial coordination:** During Operation Sindoor, a centralized Control Room was established for interdisciplinary and inter-departmental coordination. This Control Room functioned 24x7 and facilitated real-time information dissemination to all media stakeholders. This Control Room comprised nodal representatives from the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force, along with officers from various Government media units, and officials from the Press Information Bureau (PIB). Social media handles and posts spreading fake news and misinformation were actively identified.

**Factcheck:** Fact Check Unit under the PIB actively monitored social media platforms and online news sources in real time to detect fake images, edited videos, misleading narratives, and any manipulated content targeting the operation's objectives, government agencies, or security forces.

The Unit debunked Pakistani propaganda against India and Indian Armed Forces and fact-checked many posts countering such content. Additionally, the links related to disinformation or false news concerning Operation Sindoor, fact-checked by the FCU, were promptly shared with concerned intermediaries for appropriate action.

The efforts of the Fact Check Unit were appreciated by media. The links of some of the articles are given below:

- **India's FCU battles Pakistan's digital propaganda with swift rebuttals following 'Operation Sindoor'**  
<https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2025/May/10/indias-fcu-battles-pakistans-digital-propaganda-with-swift-rebuttals-following-operation-sindoor>
- **Govt fact-checking unit swings into action in the wake of Operation Sindoor to highlight false claims**  
<https://www.livemint.com/industry/media/india-pib-govt-fact-checking-unit-operation-sindoor-misinformation-false-claims-11746770729519.html>
- **How India is fighting Pakistan's disinformation campaign**  
<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/how-india-is-fighting-pakistan-s-disinformation-campaign-101746644575505.html>

**Blocking:** It was observed that certain social media handles, many operating from outside India were actively propagating false and potentially harmful information. Under the Section 69A of the Information Technology Act 2000, Government issued necessary orders to block websites, social media handles and posts in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of the State, and public order.

Ministry also issued directions for **blocking of over 1,400 URLs on digital media** during Operation Sindoor. The content of these URLs included false, misleading, anti-India news content, communally sensitive content primarily from Pakistan-based social media accounts and inciteful content against Indian Armed Forces.

**Advisory to media:** On 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting issued an advisory to all Media channels to refrain from showing live coverage of defence operations and movement of security forces in the interest of national security.

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