

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1645
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 29.07.2026

LEGISLATION FOR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

1645. COM. SELVARAJ V:
SHRI SUBBARAYAN K:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering a proposal to bring about a comprehensive legislation specifically for Artificial Intelligence (AI); and
(b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) and (b): India's Artificial Intelligence (AI) policy is based on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of democratizing technology. It is aimed at creating economic opportunities and employment for youth, while addressing risks associated with AI.

India's AI strategy builds on India's vibrant IT sector with annual revenue of 300 billion dollars and 60 lakh strong workforce. The IndiaAI Mission has seven pillars including development of AI models, applications, datasets, talent development and affordable compute.

India AI Governance Guidelines were released on 5th November 2025, providing a comprehensive national framework for the safe, responsible and inclusive development and deployment of Artificial Intelligence in the country.

Pursuant to the Guidelines, the following institutional mechanisms have been initiated:

- AI Governance and Economic Group (AIGEG), a high-level inter-ministerial body to steer the development of India's national AI governance strategy;
- Technology and Policy Expert Committee (TPEC), to support technical and policy recommendations; and
- AI Safety Institute (AISI), to undertake safety research, develop standards, test AI systems and evaluate emerging risks.

To help achieve the aim at ensuring an Open, Safe and Trusted and Accountable Internet for all users, the Government adopts a consultative approach in matters relating to the legal and regulatory framework governing the digital ecosystem and regularly engages with relevant stakeholders to examine the legal, policy and institutional framework relating to emerging issues in the cyberspace, in light of technological developments and public interest.

Any legislative or regulatory measures, if considered necessary, are processed in accordance with the extant policy and established legislative procedures of the Government.

Information Technology Act, 2000 (“IT Act”) and the rules:

- In this direction, it may be noted that the IT Act and the rules made thereunder provide a technology-neutral legal framework governing computer resources, intermediaries, digital platforms and online activities.
- Accordingly, their provisions apply irrespective of the underlying technology used, including AI, and the existing legal framework is strengthened from time to time to address emerging technological developments and associated online harms.
- The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 (“IT Rules, 2021”) lay down the statutory due diligence framework governing intermediaries and significant social media intermediaries, and require them to implement these obligations effectively so as to prevent the hosting or transmission of unlawful content.
- To address the issues of emerging online harms generated through misuse of technologies like AI, the Government has already strengthened the existing regulatory framework through the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Amendment Rules, 2026, which were notified on 10th February, 2026 and came into force on 20th February, 2026.
- These amendments have, *inter alia*,—
 - introduced a dedicated due diligence framework for synthetically generated information (SGI), including deepfakes and other AI-generated audio, visual and audio-visual content, and
 - prescribed additional obligations for intermediaries, including Significant Social Media Intermediaries, to mitigate online harms arising from such content, such as user declaration and technical verification before publishing SGI, and prominent labelling of SGI.

These amendments have also strengthened the timelines for compliance, including reduced timelines for removal of unlawful information upon actual knowledge and for grievance redressal (including special categories such as nudity/impersonation etc.):

- Reduction of Removal/disablement Timeline:
 - Removal/disablement timeline reduced from 36 hours to 3 hours upon valid reasoned intimation from the Appropriate Government.
- Reduction of Grievance Redressal Timelines:
 - General grievances: reduced from 72 hours to 36 hours;
 - Special category harms (nudity, impersonation, sexually explicit content etc.): reduced from 24 hours to 2 hours.
