GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5349 ANSWERED ON:13.12.2010 BLOCKING OF INFORMATION ON INTERNET Singh Shri Dushyant

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

- (a) whether the Government has finalised the rules to block public access to any information on the Internet for wide ranging reasons of security and national interest in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether despite these rules came into force, information through computer resources is being accessed to by unauthorised person/companies;
- (d) if so, the number of cases came to the notice of the Union Government during the last three years and the current year; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

(a) and (b): Section 69 A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides for power to issue directions for blocking for public access of any information through any computer resource.

The detailed Rules under this Section namely "Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information by Public) Rules,2009" have been notified on 27.10.2009.

(c) and (d): Any blocking of information carried out by the Internet Service Providers may not be completely effective. Technically, there are various ways of bypassing the blocking. The same blocked information can be hosted by changing the address of the website and IP address of the website. There are many cache servers (known as Anonymous Proxies) installed worldwide through which the users can access the same blocked information.

No such case regarding blocked information being accessed by unauthorized person/companies have been reported.

(e): Does not arise.