

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:161  
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2012  
REGULATION OF NETWORKING SITES  
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Singh Shri Radha Mohan

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

- (a) whether the Government has held discussions with the State Government, public representatives and social networking sites to restrict the objectionable contents on the social networking websites;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the main points covered in the said discussions;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring a new legislation/guidelines in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard so far?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

(a) and (b): Government had held discussions with social networking sites brought to notice of social networking sites that many objectionable content appearing on the sites may lead to law and order problems and social networking sites were requested to take appropriate steps in line with those outlined in the Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules, 2000.

(c) and (d): Adequate legal provisions are already in place in this regard. Government, on 11.4.2011, has notified Information Technology (Intermediaries guidelines) Rules, 2011 under Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000. Further section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 empowers Government to issue directions for blocking for public access of any information through any computer resource in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order or for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognizable offence relating to these.