

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2010

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2012

CYBER SURVEILLANCE AGENCY

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Gandhi Smt. Maneka Sanjay;Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Ponnam Shri Prabhakar;Rama Devi Smt. ;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh;Yadav Shri Dharmendra;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up a dedicated cyber surveillance agency to monitor the web and social media networks for malicious content which have implications of law and order etc. in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the consultations held with various stakeholders before finalization of delegation of powers in cyber surveillance agency;
- (c) whether the Government has prepared a legal regime to fill the gaps in the Information Technology (IT) Act for dealing with such situations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Ministry of Home Affairs has requested to authorize Intelligence Bureau to monitor the web and social media services for malicious content; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the Surveillance Agency is likely to be made operational?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)

- (a): There is no proposal with the Government.
- (b): Does not arise
- (c) and (d): The Information Technology Act, 2000 has adequate provisions to deal with such situations. Further, the Government has held several rounds of discussions with stakeholders including the social media to address the issue of proper implementation of the provisions of the Act. It has been agreed that all stakeholders would work together to minimize the unintended consequences and evolve the processes through clarifications and guidelines as necessary.
- (e): No, sir.
- (f): Does not arise.