

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2337
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2015
ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEX DETERMINATION
Maragatham Smt. K.

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

(a) whether the Government has directed various internet search engines to neither advertise nor sponsor prenatal sex determination advertisements; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and other preventive measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) and (b): A writ petition No. 341/2008 was filed by Sabu Mathew George in Supreme Court regarding blocking of advertisements relating to pre-natal sex determination test on Internet. M/s Google, Yahoo and Microsoft are also the respondents. On 28.1.2015, Supreme Court directed that M/s Google, Yahoo and Microsoft shall not advertise or sponsor any advertisement which would violate Section 22 of the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act, 1994 and if any advertisement is there on any search engine, the same shall be withdrawn forthwith by M/s Google, Yahoo and Microsoft. Further the Supreme Court directed that the said order passed on 28.1.2015 shall be put on the policy page as also on the page containing 'terms and conditions of service' by the Respondents. If any specific advertisement or web page violating Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act, 1994 is brought to the notice of the Government, immediate action is taken with due priority within the ambit of the provision of Section 69A of the Information Technology Act 2000 and the procedures outlined in the Rules published therein.