

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5558

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2019)

SOCIAL MEDIA TROLLING

5558. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWAR :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the various steps taken by the Government to curb the menace of trolls on various social media platforms;**
- (b) whether the Government is going to formulate any new policy to regulate social media and its use;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE; AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (d) : The Social Media Platforms are Intermediaries as defined in the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 and as per Section 79 of the Act, certain due diligence is to be followed by intermediaries. Further, intermediaries are required to inform the users of computer resource not to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit,

update or share any information that is grossly harmful, defamatory, obscene, pornographic, paedophilic, harms minor in any way, violates any law for the time being in force, etc. They are also expected to remove any unlawful content relatable to Article 19(2) of the Constitution of India as and when brought to their knowledge either through a court order or through a notice by appropriate government or its agency.

The Government is committed to freedom of speech and expression and privacy of its citizens as enshrined in the Constitution of India. Law enforcement agencies take action on posting of unlawful content in social media on specific case-to-case basis.
