

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1070**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 26.07.2023

**INTERNET SHUTDOWN**

**#1070. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU:**

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

- (a) the total cases of internet shutdowns by the law enforcement agencies like the ones in Manipur and Punjab in the country during the last three years, year-wise and State/UT-wise;
- (b) the estimated losses incurred due to such internet shutdowns by the law enforcement agencies;
- (c) whether the Government intend to take any measures or develop any comprehensive strategy to minimize losses due to such internet shutdowns and explore alternatives to such actions; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR)

(a) to (d): Under the Indian Telegraph Act, State Government Authorities have the power of suspends telecom services including Internet in the event of public emergency or public safety. Concerned State Governments issue orders for temporary suspension of internet service to maintain law and order in the State or part thereof under the provisions contained in the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules 2017. Centralized data of number of Internet shutdowns is not maintained by Government of India. There is no report available with the Government that assess the economic loss incurred due to Internet shutdowns.

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