

Government Websites

*271. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem captioned "E-MAIL" in the India Today dated 10th July, 2000, indicating that the e-mail addresses of the Information Technology Minister himself and the Prime Minister are not available on the net and Government. Websites of various Ministries which are sketchy and poorly described; and

(b) if so, the action being taken to update the National Informatics Centre Directory Service and to make the Government Websites more meaningful, keeping in view the fast march of e-commerce in global trading?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has a Website which was developed by Rediff. Com. There is a provision to send message to PMO through this website. There is no specific E-mail address for the Prime Minister.

The E-mail address of the Minister of Information Technology is available on the net of Ministry of Information Technology and not on the network of National Informatics Centre.

The National Information Centre (NIC) website has been rated as the second best websites in the country by an independent agency namely www.bestindiansites.com.

NIC has already established a backbone network in the other Ministries/Departments and has provided the necessary infrastructure for hosting their websites. These websites however are managed by the respective Ministries/Departments of the users. Each Ministry has nominated a senior officer to provide and monitor the contents of their website at regular intervals.