

2. One is Proficient in using social media group collaboration tools.
3. One has an active and regularly checked email account.
4. One has access to a Computer/Smartphone with Internet.
5. One is willing to use one's personal social presence to help Government spread a word about its policies and programmes.

Once registered, a Digital Volunteer may—

- i. Talk about Government Initiatives by retweeting the messages tweeted by-MIB's Twitter Handle @MIB-India.
- ii. share Ministry's Tweets, Posts on Facebook and Videos on YouTube on Social Networking sites.
- iii. mention Official Twitter handle of MIB @MIB-India in their tweets to facilitate real time engagement.

Applicants need to fill an online form for registration as a Digital Volunteer with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. After scrutiny of applications, applicants are enrolled as Digital Volunteers with Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Every month, the volunteer may be asked to submit—

- (i) Number of Retweets done.
- (ii) Number of shares of MIB's posts on different platforms.
- (iii) Number of mentions of MIB's Twitter handle in various posts.

At the end of six months, the volunteers who have actively participated in various activities and regularly submitted reports for all six months may be awarded certificates.

#### **India's position in World Press Freedom Index**

1461. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN:

DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI:

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

- (a) whether India has dropped nine places to 140th rank in the list of 179 nations in the latest World Press Freedom Index;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether increasing impunity for violence against journalists and internet censorship are the main causes for the lowest rank; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to improve the conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (d) The Government has come across media reports carrying the results of survey by 'Reporters Without Borders' and World Press Freedom Index 2013 compiled by the body. A number of reports are available on internet covering aspects like freedom of speech, transparency and censorship on internet. Different methodology, data and techniques for data collection are followed for preparing the reports. The sources of data collection are not disclosed. World Press Freedom Index, 2013 is based on questionnaire sent to different people and organizations.

The Article 19 of the Constitution provides freedom of speech and expression to the citizens of India. There is no censorship of Internet in India. The provisions of the Information Technology Act, 2000 protect the democratic processes and freedom of speech and expression as well as citizen's rights in line with the Constitution of India.

Besides, the Ministry of Home Affairs has issued a comprehensive advisory on prevention, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime to all State Governments and UT administrations that are primarily responsible for ensuring protection of the life and property of all citizens including media personnel and journalists within their respective jurisdiction.

#### **Council for advertising agencies**

1462. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to set up a council for the advertising agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has received many proposals in this regard; and