

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Madam, this is a question of entire selection process. As U.P.S.C. does for I.A.S., I.P.S. and others, this would be done, but there are issues. One thing I would like to address in this House that whenever we talk of All India Judicial Service, a question is raised कि असम के लोग तमिलनाडु में कैसे जाएंगे? I.A.S. people from Tamil Nadu get posted in Assam or not? Shri R.C.P. Singh has been I.A.S. officer, he went to U.P. or not? Kerala people come to my State of Bihar or not? They pick up language. But even my thinking and the Government's thinking is that we would have four categories in the entire country for All India Judicial Service so that North, South, East, West people can come in those clusters. So the language would not be a problem. I would urge hon. Member that this is a great reform initiative of Government of India and all of us should work together to make it a success.

SHRI RIPUN BORA: Madam, I have tried three times. I did not get a chance. That is why I was under the impression that this time also, I would not get a chance. That is why I am not prepared.

My question to the hon. Minister is this. In his reply about the All India Judicial Service, he has stated that a series of meetings were held with Chief Justices of the High Courts and Chief Ministers of India. But, at the end, he said that consensus is yet to arrive. So, my question to the hon. Minister is this. Would he take initiative to expedite it and get a consensus so that we can get an All India Judicial Service?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Madam, we are making effort. It is a commitment of the Government of India. Taking the benefit of the floor of this great House, Rajya Sabha, I would appeal to all the stakeholders including all the High Courts of India that this is a great reform initiative. Even if we have traditional, conventional opposition, please overcome it and join in this great reform initiative.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN): Question No. 278.

Monitoring of social networking sites

*278. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has been witnessing usage of mobile phones and internet for committing crimes which are against the interest of the country;

(b) whether Government has taken a decision to monitor all social networking sites; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Cyber space is a complex environment of people, software, hardware and services on the Internet. With a borderless cyberspace coupled with the possibility of instant communication and anonymity along with rapid growth in proliferation of mobile telephony, improvement in connectivity and development of new and convenient platforms there are certain miscreants who use mobile phones and internet for committing crimes like elsewhere in the world.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology does not monitor content on social networking sites. Of late, Terrorists, extremists and groups involved in violence are seeking to abuse social media to foment trouble and violence. Of course this requires action and the Government blocks any information generated, transmitted, received, stored or hosted in any computer resource in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States or public order or for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognizable offence relating to above as and when brought to Government's knowledge as per the provisions specified in Section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 and the Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information for Public) Rules, 2009 notified under this section.

श्री हरनाथ सिंह यादव: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि मोबाइल और सोशल नेटवर्किंग से देश की एकता, अखंडता, संप्रभुता व सामाजिक सद्भाव को पलीता लगाने वालों के खिलाफ क्या सरकार ने भारतीय दंड संहिता में कोई प्रावधान किए हैं? यदि हां, तो उसका पूर्ण विवरण क्या है?

श्री धोत्रे संजय शामराव: महोदया, जो सोशल नेटवर्किंग साइट्स हैं या आईटी, इंटरनेट का उपयोग है, इससे बहुत अच्छे काम भी हो रहे हैं, लेकिन जो असामाजिक तत्व हैं या जो सिस्टम को क्रैक करना चाहते हैं, वे इसका दुरुपयोग कर रहे हैं। इसके लिए सरकार

ने आईटी एक्ट बनाया हुआ है और इसके लिए सरकार सतत प्रयासरत रहती है। अगर कोई भी गलत इन्फॉर्मेशन आती है, तो इसमें उसको ब्लॉक करने का प्रावधान भी है।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Protection of handloom weavers in Tamil Nadu

*279. SHRI P. WILSON: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to protect the handloom weavers in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) whether Government is taking any steps to supply free electricity for the handloom weavers in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Ministry of Textiles through Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms is implementing the following schemes for overall development of handloom sector and welfare of weavers across the country including the State of Tamil Nadu:—

1. National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP):

- (i) **Block Level Cluster:** Introduced in 2015-16 as one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP). Financial assistance upto ₹ 2.00 crore per Block Level Cluster (BLC) is provided for various interventions such as skill upgradation, Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata, product development, construction of workshed, design development, setting up of Common Facility Centre (CFC) etc. Besides, financial assistance upto ₹ 50.00 lakh is also available for setting up of one dye house at district level. The proposals are recommended by the State Government.

Since 2015-16 to 2019-20 (till date), 14 Block Level Clusters have been sanctioned under NHDP in Tamil Nadu State and ₹ 16.09 crore has been released to cover 5663 beneficiaries.

- (ii) **Handloom Marketing Assistances:** In order to provide marketing platform to the handloom agencies/weavers to sell their products directly to the consumers, financial assistance is provided to the