GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2629

TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2021

HATE MESSAGES ON FACEBOOK

2629. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:

Will the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the controversy over alleged hate messages on Facebook and the inquiry report published in the Wall Street Journal in this regard;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATES FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)

(a) to (c): Government has taken note of media report published in Wall Street Journal entitled "Facebook's hate-speech Rules collide with Indian politics, thereby trying to bias the democratic system of the country". Minister for Electronics & Information Technology has written to CEO, Facebook about alleged bias of the platform and to ensure integrity and neutrality of the Facebook and the people working for Facebook. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology has already taken up the matter with Facebook.
