GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1182

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27TH JULY, 2022/ SRAVANA 5, 1944 (SAKA)

ARREST OF JOURNALISTS IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

1182 PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that since the revocation of Articles 370 and 35-A, Jammu and Kashmir has seen an increase in detention of journalists and local media organizations and an increase in the number of internet shutdowns by authorities in the region;

(b) whether Government maintains any data regarding the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a) to (c): After the Constitutional changes of 5th August, 2019, the internet services were temporarily suspended in Jammu and Kashmir for the maintenance of law and order and to ensure the safety and security of public. However, the internet **services were restored in a graded manner. Presently, there is no restriction on internet services in Jammu and Kashmir. As a law enforcing agency, Police is duty bound to take action under law against any person (without any discrimination of profession or**

otherwise) who is found involved in such activities prejudicial to the security and sovereignty of the country. During the current year, two individuals associated with media organizations have been detained under Public Safety Act as reported by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

The orders of temporary suspension of internet services, issued by the competent authority, under the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017, during emergent situations, are uploaded on the official website of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

****