

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 552

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21ST JULY, 2022

INCREASE IN INTERNET SHUTDOWNS IN THE COUNTRY

552. SHRI SANJAY SINGH

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

(a) whether India is the leading country in number of incidents of internet disruption and frequency of shutdowns;

(b) the total number of internet shutdowns by Government in the country during the last five years, year-wise;

(c) whether internet shutdowns have been regularly used as a tool for routine policing and even administrative purposes and not for public emergencies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND
MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH
THAKUR):**

(a) to (d): Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that temporary suspension of telecom services/internet shutdown is done by the appropriate authorities in the States/UTs concerned in the interest of maintaining law and order in the State or part thereof under the provisions contained in the (Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017. Centralized data of internet shutdown is not maintained by the Government.
