

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2009
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 17.3.2023

AUTHENTICITY OF USERS ON DATING APPS

2009. SMT. SULATA DEO:
DR. PRASHANTA NANDA:

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

- (a) the number of operational dating apps recognised by Government;
- (b) whether Government is aware of the number of fake profiles on Indian dating apps;
- (c) whether a guideline can be introduced to verify the authenticity of users on dating apps;
and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR)

(a) and (b): Information in this regard is not maintained with the Government.

(c) and (d): The policies of the Government are aimed at ensuring an Open, Safe and Trusted and Accountable Internet for its users. To help achieve this aim, the Central Government, in exercise of powers conferred by the Information Technology Act, 2000, has made the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. These rules cast specific obligation on intermediaries and social media intermediaries including dating apps, to observe due diligence and provide that if they fail to observe such due diligence, they shall no longer be exempt from their liability under law for third-party information or data or communication link hosted by them. Such due diligence includes, in respect of a social media intermediary which has more than 50 lakh registered users in India, enabling its users to voluntarily verify their accounts and provide such accounts with visible marks of verification.
