

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 560**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2024

CURB ON SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

560 SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA:

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

(a) the number of YouTube Channels in the Country blocked in the last five years on Government's request, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons for Government's intervention in blocking these channels; and

(c) whether it is a fact that due to Government's direction to share details, WhatsApp is planning to shut its services in the Country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW):

(a) & (b): The Central Government issues directions under Section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 in the interest of the sovereignty or 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 in respect of the information on a computer resource.

(c): MeitY has shared that WhatsApp or Meta has not informed the Government about any such plans.
