

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 29  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2024**

**INTERNET SHUTDOWNS**

**\*29. SHRI P V MIDHUN REDDY:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that internet shutdowns in their current form prohibit access to all types of information and services on the internet;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to provide rules to selectively restrict the use of certain services instead of banning the internet as a whole to ensure minimum inconvenience to the general public and meet the objectives such as curbing misinformation; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN  
REGION  
(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)**

- (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS  
(a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 29 FOR 24<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2024  
REGARDING “INTERNET SHUTDOWNS.”**

(a) On the occurrence of any public emergency, or in the interest of public safety, Central Government or State Governments are empowered to issue orders for temporary suspension of internet service as per the provisions contained in the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017.

In temporary suspensions of internet services in a region, only internet services are suspended temporarily, and other communication services like voice calling and Short Message Service (SMS) remain available during the suspension period of internet services, through which people in the region can communicate and access emergency communication services.

(b) & (c) No.

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