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Title: Need to review the Information Technology Rules, 2011.

SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY (MATHURA): Google's transparency report for July-Dec 2010 reports an increase of 123% in demands for content removal by Indian Government and law enforcement. Google removed internet content on 22% of the requests as opposed to 87%- USA, 100%- Turkey.

The 2011 Information Technology Rules also discriminate against the medium of dispersion of information, the intermediary guidelines Rules prohibit sharing of blasphemous libelous and disparaging information. These conditions are subjective and differ from the press Councils norms of journalistic conduct. A newspaper article considered blasphemous is legal, but the same cannot be reproduced online. The Reasonable Security Practices Rules allow Government agencies access to personal information from service providers through written complaints whereas where crimes requires warrants signed by magistrates.

The rules curb freedom of speech and violate the IT Act which removed intermediary liability for content. Such expansive changes should come through the Act rather than subordinate legislation.