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# THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

Monday, January 18, 2016

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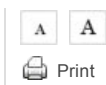
-0.68	Axis Bank : 381.50	1.94	Bajaj Auto : 2256.25	-2.84	Bank Of Baroda : 129.20	2.42	Bharti Airtel : 301.10	-1.63	BHEL : 142.65	4.58	NSE	BSE									
<b>MARKET STATS</b>	As on 18/01/2016	<b>SENSEX</b>	24358.72	-96.32	(-0.39%)	<b>NIFTY</b>	7410.65	-27.15	(-0.37%)	<b>GOLD (MCX)</b>	25576.00	0.00	(0.00%)	<b>USD</b>	67.64	-0.09	(-0.14%)	<b>GBPINR</b>	96.60	-0.57	(-0.58%)

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## New media stresses new regulations in IT Act

Diksha Dutta | Published: Dec 12 2011, 03:49 IST

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### SUMMARY

The last week was full of action for the internet world, courtesy almost every minute updated controversial social media content—be it Facebook or Twitter.

30 million Indians who are online consumers are members of social networking sites and 20 million of these spend time on social networking sites daily. Over the next six months , 45,000 online Indians intend to join social networking sites each day.

A recent survey by Indiabiz News Research Services also reveals that nearly 76% of youth believe that social media empowers them to bring change to the world they live in. They are convinced that causes

for women and movements against corruption can be driven through this medium that is now growing as a source for information. In fact, as many as 28% source information from social media sites whereas around 54 % prefer a mix of print, television and social media.

Existing benefits and concerns

As social media is becoming such an important tool, Duggal says that the government right now is concerned about defamatory content and the content that offends religious sensibilities and both of them are covered under the existing law. If you defamate somebody, it is punishable with imprisonment and fine under Section 500 of Indian Penal Code. Also under section 66 A of the IT Act, there is three years imprisonment and fine for such an offence. Similarly, if one publishes obscene content on any network, under Section 67 of the IT Act he will be punishable with three years imprisonment and a fine of R5,00,000.

Further, rules under IT Act which have come into effect from April 11, 2011 mention that all service providers like Google, Yahoo or Facebook should have terms and conditions that they cannot post any obscene content. The service provider has to remove such content in 36 hours if asked by government or any citizen of India. If not done so, the law says that the service provider is in same category with the co-accused. The affected person can sue the service provider for offensive content upto R5 crore. If the websites does not remove it in 36 hours, the internet company is criminally liable and has to pay compensation. This is effective from October 27, 2009.

The government has been given power to put fine on service providers under the IT Act. Recently Yahoo! had to pay a fine of R10,00,000 for not giving the government some content for national investigation or security.

Thus, as topics like Anna Hazare's Lokpal Bill remain top discussion issues on Facebook, it is high time we

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Party	2009	2014	Diff
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Cong	82	42	-40
SSP	44	63	+19
NCP	62	41	-21
MNS	13	1	-12
Indep	24	7	-17
Others	17	12	-5

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- Yes
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- Can't Say

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