

Sahyog Portal

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Why in news?

More than 2,300 blocking orders were sent to 19 online platforms, including WhatsApp, Facebook, YouTube and Instagram, between October 2024 & October 2025 through the Union Home Ministry's Sahyog portal.

- **Sahyog Portal** It is designed to *combat cybercrime* by coordinating government agencies and online intermediaries.
- **Launched in -** 2024.
- **Created by** Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), a Ministry of Home Affairs initiative that acts as the national nodal point to combat cybercrime in India.
- Nodal Ministry Ministry of Home Affairs.
- Purpose -
 - It was developed to *automate the process* of sending notices to intermediaries (social media platforms, service providers, etc.) under the IT Act, 2000.
 - It enables the *removal or disabling* of access to any unlawful online content quickly.
 - It **brings together all authorised agencies and intermediaries** on one platform for ensuring immediate action against unlawful online information.

• Working -

- Agency issues notice Authorised officers send takedown requests to platforms through Sahyog.
- **Platform responds -** They can remove the content, ask for more details, or refuse with reasons.
- Agency reviews If reasons are accepted, the case closes. If not, the agency insists on compliance.
- **Show cause notice** If the platform still refuses, the agency issues a formal notice demanding an explanation.
- Final action If the explanation is rejected, the platform can lose safe harbour protection under IT Rules, making it legally liable for unlawful content.
- Legal Basis Operates under <u>Section 79(3)(b) of the IT Act, 2000</u>.
- Section 79 protects platforms from being blamed for what users post.
- But under Section 79(3)(b), the platforms lose this protection if they don't remove unlawful content after being told by the government.
- **Significance** To create a safe cyber space for citizens of India by establishing an effective framework for the prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of

cybercrime.

References

- 1. Indian Express | Sahyog Portal average of 6 content block orders a day
- 2. <u>Sahyog Portal | Sahyog Portal</u>
- 3. Media nama | Sahyog Portal

