

# Govt says will not allow data abuse

By **Meetu Jain**  
in New Delhi

SOCIAL media is a beast that can be tamed was the message sent out from Parliament by information technology minister Ravi Shankar Prasad on Thursday.

In fact, data privacy is something the government takes seriously which is why on Wednesday the ministry of electronics and information technology handed over to the CBI the Cambridge Analytica data leak case. The investigative agency will probe if the British data company compromised the data of voters as well as Facebook users to help political parties during elections.



## The Centre wants social media platforms to locate their grievance officers in India.

Responding to the members' concerns during a calling attention motion notice on the misuse of social media platforms and propagation of fake news causing unrest and violence, he said government is seriously considering that all social media platforms should be required to locate their grievance officer in India. "The duty of such grievance officer should cover not only to receive grievances on a real-time basis but also to inform law enforcement agencies," Prasad said.

India remains the biggest market for WhatsApp accounting for one-fifth of all users across the globe. Prasad told Parliament that WhatsApp was taking steps to prevent the spread of fake news. Prasad said that while the government does not regulate content on social networking platforms, these platforms are required to follow due diligence in accordance with the Information Technology Act and the Rules. *India Today TV*