

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿಧಾನ ಸಭೆ, ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಹಾಗೂ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖನಾ ಶಾಖೆ
KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, RESEARCH AND REFERENCE BRANCH

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Twitter faces tough questions by Parl panel

NEW DELHI, DHNS ^{೨೨}
Twitter on Wednesday faced trouble with a Parliamentary Standing Committee that came down heavily on the micro-blogging site for showing Ladakh as part of China, saying it was "treason" while insisting that US-based parent company and not its Indian arm should submit an explanation in the form of an affidavit.
Sources said Twitter India representatives were told by

MPs in the Joint Committee of Parliament on Personal Data Protection Bill headed by BJP's Meenakshi Lekhi in no uncertain terms that its action was a criminal offence that questioned the sovereignty of the country.

The Twitter India representatives "begged apology" but were told that the affidavit must be submitted by Twitter Inc, not by its 'marketing arm' Twitter India, sources said after the over two-hour-long deliberations of the committee,

which included questioning on Ladakh being shown as part of China on the Twitter app.

"The committee was of the unanimous opinion that Twitter's explanation on showing Ladakh as part of China was inadequate," Lekhi said.

While Twitter India officials said the social media company respects the sensitivities of India, Lekhi said that it was also a question of national integrity and sovereignty of the country, and not respecting that is a criminal offence.

Displaying Indian maps improperly and incorrectly is an offence of treason and attracts imprisonment of seven years, she reminded.

Questions about Twitter's banning policy were also raised during the meeting. MPs said Twitter's banning policy was opaque and it became a law unto itself.

In a statement, Twitter said it remains committed to openness and transparency and will stay in touch with the government to share timely updates.