



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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Cannot be compelled to join Sahyog portal : X tells Delhi High Court

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Context

- Social media platform X has informed the Delhi High Court that it cannot be compelled to come on board the Centre's **SAHYOG portal**, which aims to **create a unified framework to combat cybercrime**, arguing that "X Corp has its own portal to process valid legal requests".
- Pointing to the Supreme Court's ruling in the **Shreya Singal vs Union of India** case, X argued that the **SAHYOG portal falls outside the statutory scheme of Section 69A of the IT Act, which empowers the government to order online platforms to block information in specific circumstances.**
- The portal would **"create a parallel mechanism to the existing mechanism under Section 69A of the IT Act albeit without any procedures or safeguards.** Thus, it is stated that X Corp cannot be compelled to come on the SAHYOG portal," it said.

Section 69A of IT Act, 2000:

- Empowers the **government to block public access to online information in interest of sovereignty, security, public order, or prevention of incitement.**
- Requires **written orders and procedural safeguards**, upheld in the **Shreya Singhal vs Union of India (2015) verdict by Supreme Court.**

IT Act 2000

- The IT Act 2000 is India's primary law governing **cyber activities, digital transactions, and electronic governance.**
- It provides a legal framework for cybersecurity, digital signatures, data protection, and penalties for cyber offenses

Sahyog Portal:

- It is an **online platform developed to automate the issuance of notices to intermediaries for content removal under the IT Act 2000.**
- **Ministry Involved:** Developed and managed by the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).**
- **Aim:** To enable **swift and coordinated action against unlawful digital content &** create a clean and secure cyberspace for Indian citizens.

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Functions:

- **Brings together authorized government agencies and intermediaries on one digital platform.**
- **Facilitates the issuance, tracking, and monitoring of content removal notices.**
- **Enhances compliance, monitoring, and quick responses to cyber law violations.**