

India's internet curbs are part of growing global trend | The Guardian

By Michael Safi

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On Thursday, [internet shutdowns came to the capital city](#) of the world's largest democracy.

The suspension of data services, phone calls and texting to curb protests in parts of Delhi was an inauspicious milestone for a tactic that is becoming an increasingly common tool for authoritarian governments – but practised most often by [India](#).

As internet penetration has surged this past decade, especially in the developing world, so have attempts to switch off the flow of information. The internet-freedom group Access Now recorded 75 internet outages around the world in 2016; the figure more than doubled to 196 last year.

With protest movements convulsing dozens of countries this year, the figure is likely to be “much, much higher”, said Berhan Taye, a senior policy analyst at Access Now.

[...]

Source: [India's internet curbs are part of growing global trend | Technology | The Guardian](#)