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Pakistan Calls on Big Tech to Clamp Down on Terror Content

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Pakistan has issued a strong appeal to global social media giants, urging immediate action against accounts operated by banned militant organisations. At a press conference on Friday, Deputy Interior Minister Talal Chaudhry stated that groups such as Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), also known as the Pakistani Taliban, and the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) have been exploiting platforms like X (formerly Twitter),

Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp and Telegram to spread extremist propaganda and glorify terrorism within the country.

The Pakistani government maintains that despite being officially outlawed and designated as terrorist organisations by countries including the United States, these groups continue to evade digital regulation by using encrypted channels and anonymous profiles. According to Chaudhry, the presence of such accounts not only undermines national security but also fuels radicalisation among vulnerable communities. He called for a more robust and transparent system of cooperation from Silicon Valley firms, stressing the need to curtail digital spaces used for incitement to violence and insurgency.

This plea underscores a broader challenge facing social media platforms globally. While companies often claim to champion free speech, they remain under fire for their inability or unwillingness to effectively monitor content that supports terrorism.The current security environment, especially in volatile regions like Balochistan and the tribal belt, makes digital oversight not just a regulatory issue but a matter of national survival. The government believes that without meaningful intervention by social media companies, efforts to maintain law and order remain incomplete.

The ball is now in the court of the global tech giants. If they hope to retain any credibility in international policy circles, especially in security-sensitive regions, they must step up content moderation efforts and collaborate directly with sovereign states battling terrorism. While concerns around censorship and civil liberties must be considered, there is a line between dissent and incitement. Pakistan's demand reflects a growing global consensus that online platforms cannot remain passive

bystanders. In the digital age, fighting terrorism requires more than boots on the ground; it demands smart, decisive action in cyberspace.