

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2823  
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2002  
PRODUCTION OF PIRATED VCDs/CDS  
C. SREENVAASAN;M.H. AMBAREESH;PUTTASWAMY GOWDA

**Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a number of film producers and film personalities have approached to the Government to provide them relief in view of a large scale production of pirated VCDs and CDs in the country which put them on a loss;
- (b) if so, the estimated pirated VCDs and CDs seized by the Government as on June 30, 2002;
- (c) whether the Union Government propose to bring a comprehensive Bill to make the crime of piracy non-bailable and punishment more stringent;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a)to(e): This Ministry has been receiving representations from the film industry from time to time, regarding the need of anti-piracy measures. Enforcement of the Copyright Act 1957 lies with the State Governments through the police. Ministry of Human Resource Development, the nodal Ministry for copyright matters, has asked States/Union Territories to set up separate copyright enforcement cells or special cells in the Crime Branch to exclusively look into copyright offence cases. Ministry of Human Resource Development has also stated that piracy is already a non-bailable offence under the Copyright Act. This Ministry does not maintain statistics regarding the seizure of pirated CDs etc. which is basically the concern of the police authorities.