

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1691
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2008
GUIDELINES FOR NEWS CHANNELS
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to issue new guidelines for news channels operating in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a), (b) & (c) : With a view to updating the existing Programme & Advertisement Codes and to bring them at par with the contemporary community standards, Government had constituted a Committee in October, 2005 under the chairmanship of the Secretary, I&B, inter-alia, comprising of the representatives of relevant Ministries, broadcasting/film/advertising organizations, civil society groups, consumer forum. Secretary, I&B has submitted the report of the Committee to the Government in March, 2008 which includes a chapter on news programmes and the same is posted on the website of this Ministry www.mib.nic.in for wider public consultation and therefore no definite time frame can be given.