

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:48
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2005
OBSCENE PROGRAMMES ON TV
Shukla Smt. Karuna;Thummar Shri Virjibhai

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

to the reply given to Starred Question No. 360 dated August 19, 2004 regarding violence and obscenity in DD programmes and state:

(a) whether there is an increase of obscenity and violence being shown on the TV programmes/ advertisements by various Indian and foreign channels in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is taking any steps to stop the programmes which are being shown through uplinking from other countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 48 FOR ANSWER ON 03/03/2005

(a) & (b) Programmes and advertisements of all satellite TV channels (whether uplinked from India or abroad), transmitted/retransmitted through the cable network are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder.

Action for violations of the codes can be taken by any authorised officer i.e. SDM, DM or Commissioner of Police or any other officer notified in the official gazette by the Central Government or State Government. The Central Government has constituted two inter-ministerial committees under Section 20 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 to look into the violations of the Programme and Advertising Code.

(c) & (d): The Government is examining the issue of introducing downlinking guidelines to regulate the content of satellite TV channels which are uplinked from other countries and are downlinked in India for public viewership. The Government is also considering setting up a regulatory authority for regulation of broadcasting content.