

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:797
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010
JUDGEMENT BY SUPREME COURT ON TV CONTENT
Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami

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

- (a) whether the Supreme Court of India has recently passed any judgment on television content;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken thereon;
- (c) whether the recent mushrooming of television channels has created an unwanted and fierce competition among the channels to gain high TRP ratings;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether the Government propose to control the content of these television channels; and
- (f) if so, the manner in which such control is likely to be exercised?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. JATUA)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No such study has been brought to the notice of the Government.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) & (f) Government has promulgated Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 for the purpose of regulation of content on private television. All programmes and advertisements telecast on TV channels, transmitted/retransmitted through the Cable TV network, are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder. Action is taken as per rules whenever any violation of Code is brought to the notice of the Government. This Ministry has constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) to look into the specific complaints or suo motu take cognizance against the violation of Programme and Advertising codes and action is taken as per rules if violation is established. Government has also set up an Electronic Media Monitoring Centre (EMMC) to monitor the content of private television channels with reference to the violation of Programme and Advertising Codes.