

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4577

ANSWERED ON:07.12.2010

ACTION AGAINST TV CHANNELS

Bundela Shri Jeetendra Singh; Das Shri Ram Sundar; Dashmunsi Deepa ; J Helen Davidson; Mishra Shri Mahabal ; Mitra Shri Somendra Nath; Patil Shri C. R. ; Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma; Singh Shri Radhey Mohan; Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

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

- (a) whether the Government has issued any directive to certain TV channels for airing objectionable content on their programmes including reality shows in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the such channels have complied with the directives of the Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has any proposal to regulate the broadcasting of reality shows; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Recently two directives have been issued one each to Imagine TV channel and Colors TV channel telecasting reality shows viz. 'Rakhi ka Insaf' and 'Big Boss Season-4' respectively. The TV channels have been directed to shift the programme to any time after 11.00 P.M and modify the content in accordance with the Programme Code. The channels have been also directed to run a scroll on Television screen to effect that the programme is not suitable for children. The channels have been further directed to ensure that there are no transmissions/retransmissions of the programme between 5.00 a.m. to 11.00 p.m. The channels should also ensure that no clippings of the programme are provided by them to any other News/Non News channel for telecast at anytime during the restricted time zone from 5.00 a.m to 11.00 p.m

(c) & (d) The Imagine TV channel has complied with the directives of the Government, while Colors TV channel has moved to the High Court at Mumbai and got interim stay on the Government directives. The matter is sub-judice.

(e) & (f) There is no specific proposal. However, all programme and advertisements telecast on TV channels, transmitted/retransmitted through the Cable TV Networks, 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 whenever any violation of Code is brought the notice of the Government.

Government had constituted a committee for reviewing the existing Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 to provide greater specificity to the provision of existing codes. The committee has made recommendations in the form of draft 'Self-regulation Guidelines for the Broadcasting sector' which is available on the Ministry's website <http://mib.gov.in> under the heading 'Codes Guidelines Policy'.

Ministry has been holding consultations with all concerned stakeholders to arrive at a broad consensus on the recommendations of the committee. A task Force has been set up under the Chairmanship of Secretary (I&B) for holding wider consultations with stakeholders to arrive at a consensus regarding the provision of the draft content code.