

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5313
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2011
REVIEW OF PRINT AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA
Bundela Shri Jeetendra Singh;Pandey Saroj

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

- (a) the number of newspapers, magazines and electronic media channels so far registered in the country, media-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any review/monitoring of the functioning of the media;
- (c) if so, the details of such monitoring/review conducted during each of the last three years and the current year, media-wise;
- (d) the number of newspapers and electronic media channels de-registered during the said period and the reasons therefor, media-wise;
- (e) whether the Government has received suggestions from the Press Commission and other stakeholders to formulate a code of conduct for the print and the electronic media; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon so far?

Answer

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

(a): In so far as Print Media is concerned, the total number of newspapers including magazines registered upto 15.8.2011 is 84,277. As on 31.8.2011, 780 satellite TV Channels, including 35 channels of Doordarshan have been permitted under the Uplinking/Downlinking Guidelines of the Government.

(b): No Sir.

(c): Does not arise

(d): 53 newspapers have been de-registered during the last three years and the current year (upto 31.8.2011). The reason for deregistration/cancellation is ceasing of publication by the owner.

As regards satellite TV channels, in the last three years two companies have requested to withdraw their permissions for their one channel each.

(e) & (f): The Government has been making efforts to promote self regulation as far as regulation of print media/TV content is concerned.

Accordingly, the Press Council of India (PCI) has formulated 'Norms of Journalistic Conduct' under Section 13(2) of the Press Council Act, 1978 for newspapers, news agencies and journalists in accordance with high professional standards.

Further, as part of the self regulatory mechanism for electronic media, Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF) has set up Broadcast Content Complaints Council (BCCC) for regulating general entertainment channels; and News Broadcasters Association (NBA) formed News Broadcasting Standards Authority (NBSA) to consider the content related complaints of news channels.

The NBA has formulated a Code of Ethics and Broadcasting Standards covering a wide range of principles to self-regulate news broadcasting. NBA has also formulated News Broadcasting Standards Regulations. For regulating general entertainment channels, IBF has laid down Content Code & Certification Rules 2011, covering an entire gamut of content-related principles and criterion for television broadcast.

Advertisement Standard Council of India (ASCI) has also developed a Code of conduct for self regulation in advertising and they have set up a Consumer Complaints Cell (CCC) to examine complains relating to advertisements.