

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3166

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011

TELECASTING INTERVIEWS OF EYE WITNESSES

Mahato Shri Narahari;Roy Shri Nripendra Nath

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that constant telecasting of interviews of eye-witnesses of various crimes or persons has raised serious concerns, endanger their lives and the National Human Rights Commission has also been raising this matter;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has issued any advisory to the Indian Broadcasting Foundation and News Broadcasters Association to direct television channels not to telecast any news report which discloses the identity of the witness to a crime;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has issued advisories from time to time in the recent past to TV channels as also broadcasters associations to play positive role and exercise necessary restraint and discretion in reporting certain emergent issues, viz., Mumbai terrorist attack of November, 2008, the first anniversary of the attack, the interviews with terrorists/terrorists groups arranged by some TV channels and also in the wake of the hostage crisis arising out of sea-hijacking by Somali Pirates.