GOVERNMENT OF INDIA INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7452 ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012 OBSCENITY ON DD CHANNELS Argal Shri Ashok;Nagar Shri Surendra Singh

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

(a) whether the Government is aware of depiction of vulgarity/objectionable content in the programmes and advertisements telecast on various Doordarshan (DD) channels;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government has recommended to amend the Indian Penal Code and the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986 alongwith other relevant Acts/formulate new code to keep a check on such content of DD and other channels;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said amendments/new code are likely to be implemented; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (b): As informed by Prasar Bharati, Doordarshan has a Programme and Commercial Code, which prohibits depiction of vulgarity/objectionable content in programmes. The Code is followed in letter and spirit.

(c) to (e): The Ministry of Women & Child Development is considering amendments to the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986. However, it is not possible for them to give any time frame in this regard. No amendment of the Programme Code relating to TV broadcast content is under consideration at present.

As regards question of amendment in the Indian Penal Code, the requisite information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.