

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:778

ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012

MONITORING OF TV CONTENT

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that vulgarity, violence, abuses, etc. in programmes/ advertisements being telecast on TV channels including Doordarshan (DD) channels is increasing;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the Number of advisories /warnings/ orders issued to various TV channels and cable operators for violation of Programme and Advertising Codes under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, during each of the last three years and the current year, channel-wise;
- (c) the monitoring mechanism to monitor the content of programmes/ advertisements being telecast by the TV channels;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up an autonomous and self regulatory system or make amendments in the said Cable Act to control such activities telecast by TV channels and cable operators;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the other steps proposed to be taken by the Government to deal with such violations of the said Act?

**Answer**

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

(a): Some instances of depiction of obscenity, vulgarity and violence, etc. on various TV channels have been brought to the notice of the Ministry. All private satellite TV channels are required to abide by the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 to telecast programmes strictly as per the Programme and Advertising Codes stipulated thereunder. Whenever any violation thereof takes place, appropriate action is taken as per the said Act.

Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan has Programme and Commercial Code, which prohibits depiction of vulgarity/objectionable content in the programmes. The code is followed strictly in letter and spirit.

(b) The details of the action taken against TV channels and cable operators for violation of Programme and Advertisement Code during the last three years and the current year is annexed.

(c) This Ministry has constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) to look into the violations of the Programme and Advertisement Codes. IMC has representatives from Ministry of Home Affairs, Defence, External Affairs, Law, Women and Child Development, Health and Family Welfare, Consumer Affairs and Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI). IMC meets regularly and recommends action against violations. Government has also set up an Electronic Media Monitoring Centre (EMMC) to monitor the content telecast on Private satellite television channels round the clock.

(d), (e) & (f) There is no proposal at present under consideration of the Government to make changes in the existing regulatory framework pertaining to telecast by TV channels and cable operators. However, the Indian Broadcasting Foundation and News Broadcasters Association, representative bodies of private broadcasters of non-news and new satellite TV channels, have set up Broadcast Content Complaints Council (BCCC) and News Broadcasting Standards Authority (NBSA) to consider content related complaints in case of private non-news and news channels respectively, as part of their self-regulating mechanism.