

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3753
ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012
GUIDELINES FOR TV CHANNELS
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Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any representations/requests from the All India Women's Democratic Association and other Women's bodies to control depicting of women in an undesirable manner in the print and the visual media to protect the honour and dignity of women;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any guidelines/provisions to cancel the licence of TV channels violating the programmes and advertising codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the names of such channels which have violated the said guidelines/norms and whose licence have been cancelled, so far; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefore?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) In so far as electronic media is concerned, some representations have been received in the Ministry from All India Women's Democratic Association and other Women's bodies. The details are given in Annexure-I.

As regards print media, no representation from All India Women's Democratic Association has been received. However, a letter regarding negative depiction of women in the articles/advertisements published in some magazines/newspapers has been received from Chairperson, National Commission for Women.

(c) to (e) The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder regulate the operation of private satellite/cable TV channels in India. Further, all such satellite/cable television channels are permitted to uplink and downlink TV channels in terms of the guidelines for Unlinking & Downlinking of TV channels. The said Act as well as the said Guidelines provide for a whole range of conditions under which private satellite TV channel are required to operate in India. The said Act does not provide for any pre-censorship of the Programmes and Advertisements telecast by private satellite/cable TV channel. However, the Act provides that all programmes and advertisements telecast should be strictly as per the Programme and Advertising Code laid down thereunder.

All private satellite/cable television channels are bound to follow the statutory provisions of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder as also the provisions of up-linking and down-linking guidelines. Section-20 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 empowers the Central Government to regulate or prohibit the transmission or re-transmission of any Channel or programme.

The details of action taken against TV Channels for violating the provisions of Programme and Advertisement Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder during each of the last three years and the current year are given in Annexure-II.