

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3823

ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012

VIOLATION BY FOREIGN TELECASTING COMPANIES

Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh;Singh Rajkumari Ratna

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

- (a) whether a number of foreign broadcasting/telecasting companies operating in the country have violated the norms/content codes prescribed by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, company-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any action against such companies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof during the said period; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that the prescribed norms/content code are not violated in future?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) Some instances of violation of Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder by private TV Channels, including foreign TV channels permitted to downlink in India, have come to the notice of the Government. The details of action taken by the Ministry against the TV Channels, permitted to downlink in India, for violation of Programme and Advertising Codes during each of the last three years and the current year are given in the Annexure.

(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 Uplinking & Downlinking of TV channels. The said Act and the Guidelines provide for a whole range of conditions under which private satellite TV channels 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 channels. However, the Act provides that all programmes and advertisements telecast should be strictly as per the Programme and Advertising Code laid down thereunder.

Government has set up an Electronic Media Monitoring Center (EMMC) to monitor private satellite TV channels with a view to monitor violations of Programme and Advertising Codes. An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) has also been set up to consider cases of violations and make appropriate recommendations for action against those satellite TV channels which violate the provisions of the Programme and Advertising Code.