

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:284

ANSWERED ON:26.02.2013

ADVISORIES TO TV CHANNELS

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Ganeshamurthi Shri A.;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Broadcasting Content Complaints Council (BCCC) has issued advisories to all TV channels not to carry crass, vulgar and double meaning language with sexual overtones in the comedy shows;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken up the matter with the TV channels;
- (d) if so, the response of the TV channels; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to monitor the programmes in the TV channels?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI)

(a) & (b) The Broadcasting Content Complaints Council (BCCC) has issued an advisory dated 27-12-2012 to all the member channels of Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF) to exercise discretion to make television viewing more pleasurable and not let 'comedy shows' become platforms for making lewd remarks. They have also advised the channels to use friendly banters without being derisive to any community, religion and individual. A copy of the advisory dated 27-12-2012 of the BCCC is annexed.

(c) to (e) As per existing Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act- 1995 all programmes telecast on Television channels, transmitted/retransmitted through the Cable TV network, are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder. The following provisions of Rule 6(1) of the Programme Code provides that "No programme should be carried in the cable service, which-

- (a) offends against good taste or decency;
- (d) contains anything obscene, defamatory, deliberate, false and suggestive innuendos and half truths;
- (k) denigrates women through the depiction in any manner of the figure of the woman, her form or body or any part thereof in such a way as to have the effect of being indecent, or derogatory to women, or is likely to deprave, corrupt or injure the public morality or morals"

This Ministry has set up an Electronic Media Monitoring Centre to monitor the content telecast on Private television channels, which sends reports on violation of Programme and Advertising Codes to this Ministry.

Further, this Ministry has constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) to look into specific complaints or take suo-moto cognizance of the violation of the Programme and Advertising Codes. Action is taken as per rules whenever violation of Codes is brought to the notice of the Government.