

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1326

ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013

COVERAGE OF VIOLENT INCIDENTS IN NEWS CHANNELS

Chitthan Shri N.S.V.;Pradhan Shri Nityananda;Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

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

(a) whether the Government/News Broadcasting Standards Authority (NBSA) has issued guidelines in the recent past for the news TV channels regarding reporting of cases of sexual assaults, violent incidents, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the major guidelines issued by the Government/NBSA;

(c) whether it is a fact that some TV channels are not complying with such guidelines; and

(d) if so, the names of such channels and the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure compliance of such guidelines by all the channels?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) In the wake of the tragic incident involving the death of a young girl who became the victim of gang-rape in Delhi, two advisories dated 23-12-2012 and 29-12-2012 were issued by this Ministry to all private satellite News Television channels asking them to exercise due sensitivity and responsibility in reporting of such cases. Copies of these advisories are placed at Annexure-I. The News Broadcasting Standards Authority has also issued guidelines on 07-01-2013 on reporting of the cases of sexual assault. A copy of the guidelines of NBSA is placed at Annexure-II.

All programmes telecast by private satellite/cable television channels are regulated under the provisions of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder. All TV channels are required to adhere to the Programme Code provided for in the Cable Television Networks Rules 1994, which lays down a wide range of Regulations for carrying programmes including news and current affairs programmes in the private satellite/cable TV channels. Action is taken as per rules whenever any violation of Code is brought to the notice of the Government.