

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:717

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009

REGULATING TV CONTENT

Gangaram Shri Awale Jaywant;Lal Shri Kirodi

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

- (a) whether the depiction of violence, obscenity and vulgarity through Television programmes and advertisements on various Private TV and Doordarshan Channels is increasing;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has received any complaints in this regard;
- (d) if so, the number of incidents depicting objectionable contents that have been reported during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the action taken by the Government during the said period, channel-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) to (c) Although a number of references/complaints have been received from public against scenes of Violence, obscenity and vulgarity in electronic media from time to time, no formal study has been brought to notice to indicate an increasing trend.
- (d) A statement is enclosed as Annexure.
- (e) The Government has constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) to look into the specific violation of the Programme and Advertisement Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed there under. The IMC either suo motu or on receipt of complaints, looks into the violations and thereafter gives its recommendations to the Government, based on which action is taken as per rules. The Government has also constituted a committee for reviewing the Programme and Advertising Codes(Content Code) prescribed under the Cable Television Networks(Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder to provide greater specificity to the provisions of the existing Codes. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government which is available on the website of the Ministry <http://mib.gov.in> under the heading "Code and Guidelines" sub-heading "Self Regulation Guidelines 2008".