

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4020

ANSWERED ON:15.12.2009

ABUSE OF CHILDREN IN TV PROGRAMME

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding abuse of children in the reality shows/other programmes telecast by a number of TV Channels;
- (b) if so, the details and nature of complaints received by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has examined this aspect; and
- (d) if so, the reaction thereon?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) There are a total of 4 complaints received by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and Ministry of Women and Child Development. These complaints allege emotional trauma, separation, anxiety, stress, lack of rest, leisure, sleep disorder etc. to children, in three reality shows/TV programmes.

(c) & (d) The NCPCR has taken cognizance of these complaints and has initiated action to satisfy whether the allegations made are violating child rights.

In the case of the Reality Show, 'Pati Patni Aur Woh' aired on NDTV Imagine Channel, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has issued a Show Cause Notice on 06.10.2009 as it appeared that the Reality Show denigrated the children and that there was indecent exploitation of them in the pursuit of entertainment. The reply of the channel has been received which is under examination.