

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4164
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2009
OBSCENITY IN PRINT MEDIA
Das Shri Ram Sundar

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

- (a) whether the Government has received several complaints regarding obscenity in the Print Media;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard;
- (c) whether the Supreme Court has issued any directive on obscenity in the Print Media;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to give more powers to the Press Council of India to take action in such cases; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?.

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Press Council of India (PCI), a statutory autonomous body set up under the Press Council Act, 1978 to inculcate principles of self- regulation among the press receives complaints regarding obscenity in the print media. The details of the complaints received by PCI during the years 2007-08, 2008-09 & 2009-10 (till date) and the action taken thereon is annexed.
- (c) & (d) No formal directions have been received from the Supreme Court on the issue of obscenity in the print media.
- (e) & (f) The proposal to provide more penal powers to the Press Council of India is under consideration.