

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6998
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2015
CHILDREN IN REALITY SHOWS
Birla Shri Om;Jaiswal Dr. Sanjay

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR) have received complaints of participation of children in reality shows during each of the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof. State/UT-wise along with the action taken / being taken by the Government on such complaints so far;
- (c) whether the Government has adopted a 'pre-clearance system ' for such reality shows in terms of legal and administrative provisions in the country and if so: the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any study to ascertain the negative effects of such reality shows on children, if so, the details and outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the NCPCR has issued guidelines in this regard, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the time by which such guidelines are likely to be issued by the NCPCR in the country; and
- (f) the other corrective steps taken/ being taken by the Government in this direction?

Answer

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has received three (03) complaints of violation of child rights during the participation of children in TV/Reality shows in each of the last three years and the current year (2015-16). The details are given in Annexure. SCPCRs being statutory bodies, no data is being maintained centrally.

(c): In so far as private satellite TV channels are concerned, there is no provision for pre-censorship of the content including reality shows telecast on such TV channels. However, all such TV channels are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Cable Television Network Rules, 1994 framed thereunder. Action is taken whenever violation of the codes is brought to the notice of the Ministry. These codes contain a whole range of parameters to regulate programmes and advertisements telecast of such TV channels including reality shows.

(d) & (e): No, Madam. However, on the basis of an enquiry conducted by NCPCR on the violation of Child Rights of children working in reality shows and the comments of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, NCPCR has formulated 1 Guidelines to regulate child participation in T.V. Serials, Reality Shows and Advertisements. These guidelines are available on NCPCR's website (www.ncpcr.gov.in) and Ministry of Information & Broadcasting's website (www.mib.nic.in).

(f): The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has referred the guidelines to News Broadcasters Association, Indian Broadcasting Foundation, MSO Alliance and Cable Operators Federation of India with a request to circulate the same among their Member TV channels for compliance.