

While drafting the framework for the above, the Commission is also required to study the ways of improving the effectiveness of measures relating to Social Security, Occupational health and Safety, Minimum Wages and linkage of wages with productivity and in particular the safeguards and facilities required for women and handicapped persons in employment. It will also take into account the effects of emerging economic environment.

[English]

Code of Conduct for Journalists

*129. SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to formulate a Code of Conduct for journalists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; .

(c) whether a meeting of the experts is likely to be called before the Code of Conduct is finalised; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Restriction on Serials

*130. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that certain serials on National Network deeply influenced the children for committing crimes;

(b) whether the Government consider to restrain such serials which are superstitious in nature and have got criminal impact on children; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN):

(a) The Government as well as the Prasar Bharati have received certain representations in this regard.

(b) and (c) Matters relating to selection, continuation etc. of programmes come within the purview of Prasar Bharati, a statutory autonomous body, and Government do not decide upon these. Prasar Bharati have reported that as per their guidelines, no programmes which promote superstitious beliefs or involve or incite children in any act of violence either as victims or as perpetrators, are telecast on Doordarshan.

[Translation]

Norms for Foreign Channels

*131. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have laid down any norms to exercise a check on the foreign channels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the channels which have violated these norms during the last two years; and

(d) if no such norms have been laid down, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN):

(a) to (d) The transmission done by foreign satellite channels is currently uplinked from outside the country and as such fall outside the ambit of Indian laws. Currently, there is no broadcast law to regulate foreign satellite channels and with a view to regulate these channels, Broadcasting Bill, 1997 was introduced in Lok Sabha in May, 1997. However, with the dissolution of the 11th Lok Sabha, that Bill has lapsed. Most of the