GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 806 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07/02/2019

CODE OF BEST PRACTICES SIGNED BY STREAMING PLATFORMS

806. SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the code of best practices signed by the Streaming Platforms/Online Curated Content Providers (OCCP) under the aegis of the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI);
- (b) the details of the redressal mechanism that will be provided to consumers of such streaming platforms;
- (c) the details of the recommendations given by the Shyam Benegal Committee on film censorship and certification;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to implement the same and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to allow the film industries to self-regulate as per recommendations from within the film industry; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING [COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)]

- (a) & (b): The Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) had in January, 2019 informed regarding development of Code of Best Practices for Online Curated Content Providers including complaint redressal mechanism.
- (c) & (d): The Committee of Experts constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Shyam Benegal submitted first part of its report in April, 2016 and final part in June, 2016. The recommendations contained in the report require amendment in the Cinematograph Act and Rules. It was felt that implementation of the recommendations, especially those requiring important amendments in the Act/Rules, be done after further consultations.

A consultation meeting between the then Hon'ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Minister of Law and Justice, Minister of Finance and Minister of Human Resources Development was held on 16th March, 2017 to deliberate on the issue of repeal/amendment of the Cinematograph Act. Another round of consultation in this regard by the then Hon'ble Minister with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra and the representatives of Film Industries was held on 06.06.2017 at Mumbai. However, consensus could not be arrived at in respect of many of the recommendations made by the Committee.

(e) & (f): There is no proposal under consideration by the Government. As per Entry 60 of the Union List (List I) of the Constitution of India, sanctioning of Cinematograph films for exhibition is the responsibility of Government of India. Government of India has enacted the Cinematograph Act, 1952 as per constitutional provisions. The Central Government has constituted the Central Board of Film Certification for the purpose of sanctioning films for public exhibition as per Section 3(1) of the Cinematograph Act.
