

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3806**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2021

NEW POLICY ON OTT

3806. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

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

(a) whether the Government is contemplating bringing out a new policy on over-the-top (OTT) censorship whereby OTT platforms are allowed to self regulate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to bring paradigm shift in the cinematography policy and its censorship in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND
MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS**

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR):

(a) & (b) The Government has notified Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 under Information Technology Act, 2000, on 25th February, 2021. Part-III of these Rules inter- alia provide for the following:-

- I. Code of Ethics to be followed by publishers of news & current affairs on digital media and publishers of online curated content (OTT platforms).**
- II. A three-level Grievance Redressal Mechanism consisting of the publisher (Level-I), self-regulating body constituted by the publishers (Level-II) and an Oversight Mechanism of the Government (Level-III), with time bound grievance disposal mechanism.**
- III. Furnishing of information by the publishers to the Government and periodic disclosure of information regarding grievance redressal in public domain.**

The Codes require OTT players not to transmit any content which is prohibited by law and undertake age based self-classification of content, based on general guidelines provided in the Schedule.

(c) & (d) Pre-certification of films meant for public exhibition is done by Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) under the provisions of Cinematograph Act, 1952. The Ministry has undertaken a review of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 to address various issues relating to cinematography.
