

[27 July, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) whether Government have asked States to constitute monitoring committees at district levels to monitor private satellite channels and local cable channels to detect and look into the violation of Programme and Advertising Code; and

(d) whether his Ministry had also set up an inter-Ministerial committee to look into violation of Programme code?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) During the period 2004-06 (till date), the Government have issued 190 show cause notices to different television channels for violation of Programme and Advertising Codes.

(b) Following is the break up of number of channels against whom it was established that they have violated the Programme and Advertising Codes and against whom action was taken:

Channels warned and askd to run a scroll	Channel warned only	Channel taken off the air	Advisory letter issued	Total
13	23	1	2	39

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Orders for setting up of monitoring committees for private television channels at the State and District levels was issued on 6th September, 2005 and the order for constitution of an Inter-Ministerial committee to take cognizance *suo-motu* or look into the specific complaints regarding violations of the Programme Code and Advertising Code, as defined in Rule 6 and 7 of the Cable Television Network Rules, 1994, was issued on 25th April, 2005.

Funds allocated for EMMC

t331. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Electronic Media Monitoring Committee (EMMC) is to monitor the programmes being telecast by private TV channels;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, by when the EMMC would commence its work; and
- (c) the amount allocated for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) The Government has decided to set up electronic Media Monitoring Centre (EMMC) for content monitoring of private television channels and to check the violations of Programme and Advertisement Codes prescribed in Cable Television Networks (Regulations), Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder.

(b) Ministry of Urban Development has been requested to give a permanent space for the project. However, as of now, they have allocated space on temporary basis in Pushpa Vihar Sakat, where EMMC project is underway and is likely to commence in 2007, subject to availability of funds and other infrastructural requirements.

(c) The total cost of the project is Rs 11.65 crores out of which Rs 2.90 crores has already been released. Another Rs 5.85 crores has been allocated under Annual Plan 2006-07 for the purpose.

Cross media monopoly

332. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to introduce a Bill that would give Government the power to prescribe restrictions to prevent cross media monopoly;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Government had felt the need of the said Bill as leading media houses consolidate their hold over different segments of the media?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is considering a proposed Broadcasting Services Regulation Bill in consultation with concerned Ministries. A need has also been felt to consult the media in the matter.

It is, therefore, difficult to indicate final views or to give a time frame on the proposal.