

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that, out of 150 complaints received, 90 per cent were bound to be frivolous; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (d) No regulatory body regarding content regulation in case of television channels has been set up by the Government. However, the Indian Broadcasting Foundation and News Broadcasters Association, representative bodies of private broadcasters of non-news and new satellite TV channels, have set up Broadcast Content Complaints Council (BCCC) and News Broadcasting Standards Authority (NBSA) to consider content related complaints in case of private non-news and news channels respectively, as part of their self-regulating mechanism. As informed by the India Broadcasting Foundation, in the first meeting of the newly created BCCC held on 14.7.2011, 90% of the complaints received from viewers were found to be frivolous, *i.e.* time of the programme does not suit the viewer, requesting repeat telecast, wanting to act in the programmes, boring programme, requesting to call back on original character, change the actor, weak signal, channels not appearing, anchors sound/pronunciation not clear, story line to be changed, etc. The number of content related complaints received by them till 14th July, 2011 were 44. The BCCC reviewed the complaints and three complaints were upheld for which they have, sought details from respective channels. Other complaints have been disposed off.

Effect of reality shows

†837. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the sentiments of public are being hurt these days by reality shows;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that reality shows affect the working of middle class of the country directly;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government is issuing any guidelines keeping reality shows in view?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (c) No such study has been done or brought to the notice of the Government.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) There is no pre-censorship of programmes including reality shows telecast on private satellite TV channels. However, all programmes and advertisements telecast on private satellite channels are required to strictly adhere to Programme Code and the Advertising Code stipulated in the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act 1995 and Rules framed thereunder. Whenever any violation thereof takes place, appropriate action as per the said Act is taken.

Losses to UNI and PTI

838. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the financial losses being suffered by UNI with accumulated loss over Rs. 30 crore and PTI suffering a loss of Rs. 2 crore in the last fiscal year;

(b) if so, the remedial measures being adopted for the healthier and viable functioning of news agencies as the print media industry, especially medium and small newspaper depends for majority of their contents on such news agencies; and

(c) whether the implementation of the Wage Boards' recommendations from time to time is a major contributory factor for such a dismal state of affairs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) United News of India (UNI) has approached the Government indicating that UNI is facing financial problems. However, UNI and Press Trust of India (PTI) are non-governmental news agencies. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting exercises no control over the internal affairs of PTI, UNI or any other such news agencies.

(c) Wage Boards are constituted under section 9 and 13C of the Working Journalists and Other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955 for the purpose of fixing or revising the rates of wages of the Working Journalists and Non-Journalist Newspaper Employees of Newspapers Establishments and News Agencies. The Wage Boards are tripartite bodies having representatives of employees, employers and independent members. The guiding principle for wage fixation is the capacity of the employer to pay the revised rates of wages to employees as per clause (2) of section 10 of the Act.

Documentary film on Sikhs

839. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a documentary film on the bravery and courage of Sikhs was screened in the British Parliament in December last year as reported in the newspapers recently;