

- (a) whether Government have taken or propose to take any concrete steps regarding telecast of programmes on TV channels within the limits of decency; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) and (b) The telecast of programmes by private satellite/cable television channels is regulated by the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995. The Act does not provide for pre-censorship of the programmes telecast by such TV channels. However, it provides that all programmes telecast by these TV channels should be in accordance with the Programme Code, which has been laid down in the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994. The said Programme Code is applicable to all private satellite/cable television channels including news channels.

The Programme Code lays down a whole range of principles that are required to be strictly followed by these TV channels. Whenever any instance of telecast of programmes including news programmes by private satellite/cable TV channels is noticed, appropriate action as per the said Act is taken. The Government has constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) to look into the specific complaints or suo motu take cognizance against the violation of Programme and Advertising Codes and action is taken as per the said Act and Rules framed thereunder, if any violation is established.

The Indian Broadcasting Foundation and News Broadcasters Association, the respective representative bodies of certain private broadcasters of non-news and news satellite TV channels, have also set up self-regulatory mechanisms to consider content-related complaints received against their member channels.

Emoluments of casual assignees

378. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that casual assignees employed in Regional Units of News Service Division of All India Radio in Delhi are paid only Rs. 340/- per duty;
- (b) whether Government is of the view that it is sufficient in the era of sky rocketing prices of essential commodities; and

(c) whether Government proposes to increase the emoluments of casual assignees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (c) The Prasar Bharati has reported that the casual assignees employed in Regional Units of News Service Division of All India Radio were being paid Rs.340/- for split shift and Rs. 675/- per day for the full shift, with effect from 01.10.2008. Prasar Bharati has further reported that the fee of such casual assignees has been enhanced with effect from 21.11.2012. The new rates for casual news readers for half shift are Rs. 650/- for freshers and Rs. 800/- for persons having three years' experience and for full shift are Rs. 1250/-for freshers and Rs. 1600/- for persons having three years' experience.

Re-appointment in CBFC

†379. DR.YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to section 3(3) of Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983, a member of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) or panel member is eligible for re-appointment after the completion of his/her tenure;

(b) if so, the basis on which the officers of the CBFC, Mumbai, misguide such members by saying that they can not be re-appointed to the Board;

(c) whether the Ministry has empowered these officers to do so; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) The Section 3(4) and Section 8(3) of the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983 related to Board members and Advisory Panel members of CBFC respectively provide that a Board member or a Advisory Panel member is eligible for re-appointment after completion of his/her tenure.

(b) to (d) The view of the Ministry is that in the interest of equity, the tenure of an individual in regional advisory panels of CBFC may be limited to two consecutive terms.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.