

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether increasing impunity for violence against journalists and internet censorship are the main causes for the lowest rank; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to improve the conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (d) The Government has come across media reports carrying the results of survey by 'Reporters Without Borders' and World Press Freedom Index 2013 compiled by the body. A number of reports are available on internet covering aspects like freedom of speech, transparency and censorship on internet. Different methodology, data and techniques for data collection are followed for preparing the reports. The sources of data collection are not disclosed. World Press Freedom Index, 2013 is based on questionnaire sent to different people and organizations.

The Article 19 of the Constitution provides freedom of speech and expression to the citizens of India. There is no censorship of Internet in India. The provisions of the Information Technology Act, 2000 protect the democratic processes and freedom of speech and expression as well as citizen's rights in line with the Constitution of India.

Besides, the Ministry of Home Affairs has issued a comprehensive advisory on prevention, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime to all State Governments and UT administrations that are primarily responsible for ensuring protection of the life and property of all citizens including media personnel and journalists within their respective jurisdiction.

Council for advertising agencies

1462. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to set up a council for the advertising agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has received many proposals in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (d) No such proposal has been received or is under consideration in this Ministry.

Measurement system of TRP

1463. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued guidelines for measurement of TRP rating by TAM Media Research;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to set up an independent broad based agency for collecting television viewership data for the benefit of broadcasters, media agencies and advertisers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (d) No such guidelines have been issued by the Government. However, keeping in view certain deficiencies in the existing system of generation of Television Rating Points (TRP), the Government requested the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to examine the issue of TRP system in India. The TRAI recommended that Self-regulation of TRPs should be done through an Industry-led body *i.e.* Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC). Subsequently, a Committee was constituted under the chairmanship of the former Secretary General, Federation of India Chamber of Commerce and Industry, to examine several crucial issues concerning Television Rating Points (TRP) and make recommendations thereon. The Committee in its Report, *inter-alia*, recommended self regulation of TRPs through the Industry-led body *i.e.* Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) to be set up by the Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF). Ministry has constantly followed up the matter with the IBF asking them to operationalise BARC and put in place a transparent and credible TRP measurement system. IBF has recently informed the Ministry that BARC is likely to start publishing television viewership data by March, 2014.