

- (c) whether it has become difficult to watch them with the whole family;
- (d) whether some people of the society are deviating from right path and committing obscene incidents in the style of stories in films due to that obscenity;
- (e) whether Government would consider to put a ban on the obscenity in films or take any appropriate steps in this context; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI) : (a) to (c) Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) certifies films in accordance with the provisions of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and Rules framed thereunder. While certifying films, CBFC strives to strike a balance between freedom of expression as laid down in Article 19(2) of the Constitution and reasonable restrictions mandated by the Cinematograph Act, 1952.

(d) to (f) CBFC does ask for cuts in the films wherever it finds necessary and in accordance with the stipulated directives under the Cinematograph Act, 1952. These directives are the guiding principles for CBFC for asking for such cuts. When CBFC finds that a particular film has an adult theme, it grants that film an 'A' certificate.

#### **Violation of content code by foreign media**

3009. DR. T.N. SEEMA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of foreign media companies operating in the country have violated the norms/content code prescribed by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last two years and the current year, company-wise;
- (c) whether Government has taken any action against such companies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof during the said period; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by Government to ensure that the prescribed norms/content code are not violated in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI) : (a) to (e) Programmes and advertisements telecast on Television Channels are governed by the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the rules framed thereunder. However, the Act does not provide for pre-censorship of the programmes and advertisements aired on these channels.

For monitoring content violations, a number of measures have been taken. An Electronic Media Monitoring Centre (EMMC) has been set up to monitor the content of private TV channels. The Ministry has also set up an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) to consider the cases of violation of these codes and recommend appropriate course of action. A statement containing the details of action taken against foreign TV channels for violation of Programme and Advertising Codes during the last two years and current year is given in Statement (*See* below).

As regards Print Media, the Press Council of India (PCI), a statutory autonomous body has been set up under Press Council Act, 1978 to maintain and improve the standards of newspapers and news agencies in the country. Accordingly, PCI, under Section 13(2)(b) of the Act has formed 'Norms of Journalistic Conduct' for adherence by the media, PCI, *suo moto* or on complaints, takes cognizance of the contents in print media which are violative of the Norms of Journalistic Conduct. However, PCI does not have any information in regard to violation of the Norms by foreign media companies.

*Statement*

*Details of the action taken by the Ministry of I & B against Foreign TV Channels for violation of Programme and Advertising Codes during the financial year 2011-12, 2012-13 and the current financial year*

Sl. No.	Name of the Channels	Date of Show Cause Notice	Violations	Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5
1.	TLC	19.04.2011	Telecast of different programmes such as 'Get Out', "Bridget's Sexiest Beaches" etc. showing obscene content.	An Advisory dated 9.8.2011 issued to the channel.
2.	Sony TV	20.04.2011	Telecast of reality show 'Comedy Circus Mahasangram' showing indecent and child denigrating content.	An Advisory dated 25.07.2011 issued to the channel.
3.	Sony Pix	11.07.2011	Telecast of some English feature films, certain content of which appeared to offend good taste and decency.	Warning dated 16.05.2012 issued to the channel.
4.	Zee Trendz	12.09.2011	Telecast of programme 'Bikini Destination' containing obscene, indecent and vulgar visuals	Advisory issued on 05.11.2012.

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Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

5.	Sony	29.09.2011	Telecast of promotional trailer of the film “The Dirty Picture”, certified ‘A’ by CBFC.	The channel apologized for its mistake and assured that such incident will not recur in future. The matter is closed.
6.	FTV	03.11.2011	Telecast of programmes “Designers in high definition”, ‘Chantellie Lingerie, Paris’ and ‘Lingerie’ which were obscene.	Order prohibiting the transmission of the channel for 10 days issued on 28.03.13.
7.	Star Cricket	16.05.2012	Telecast of advertisement of “VB Best Cold Beer”.	A warning issued to the channel on 12.09.12.
8.	FTV	05.06.2012	Telecast of programme “15th Anniversary - Top Designers”.	Order prohibiting the transmission of the channel for 10 days issued on 28.03.13.
9.	TCMTV Channel	18.7.2012	Telecast of ‘A’ certified film “Rich and Famous” without displaying CBFC certificate	The matter is under consideration.
10.	AXN	20.09.12	Telecast of Hindi feature film ‘Darkness Falls’ - ‘A’ certified film.	It has been decided to take the channel off-air for one day.