

(b) if so, how a 'must carry' channel under the Cable TV Regulations Act is closed without any decision taken at appropriate level; and

(c) whether it is an executive decision and if so, what action is proposed to be taken to identify the official concerned and corrective action taken to fix responsibility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) to (c) Prasar Bharati has informed that in so far as Gyan Darshan channel is concerned, the signal of the same are not being received at Doordarshan DTH complex from the Satellite Earth Station of IGNOU because IGNOU does not have Wireless Planning and Coordination (WPC) clearance to uplink on GSAT-10.

In so far as Gyan Vani is concerned, All India Radio was constrained to stop the operation of Gyan Vani FM channels of IGNOU *w.e.f.* 01.10.2014 due to discontinuation of payment to AIR by IGNOU from 01.04.2013 onwards accumulating an outstanding payment of about ₹ 21.64 crore as informed by Prasar Bharati. IGNOU failed to clear this payment in spite of continuous persuasion through various correspondences and subsequent reminders and despite holding a Joint Coordination Committee meeting with IGNOU on 29.10.2013 on the issue.

Terrestrial FM channels of Gyan Vani broadcast from All India Radio Stations are not covered under Cable TV Regulation Act.

Self regulatory framework in advertisement field

3459. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government is of the view that self regulatory framework is more effective than Government regulation in advertisement field;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government proposes to amend Section 6 of the Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act, 1995 so that effective and stringent Government regulation of advertisement could be made;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) and (b) No study in this regard has been brought to the notice of the Ministry. However, Advertisements telecast by private satellite TV channels are regulated under the provisions of Advertising Code as contained in the Cable Television Network Rules, 1994 framed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995.

Besides this, as a part of self-regulatory process, Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI), established in 1985, undertakes self-regulation of advertisements. ASCI has set up a Consumer Complaints Council (CCC) to consider complaints in respect of advertisements.

The self-regulation mechanism put in place by the industry, however, does not replace the existing regulatory function of the Government, arising out of the extant statute, namely Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the Rules framed thereunder.

(c) to (e) Presently, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to amend Section 6 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, since, existing mechanism available in this Ministry is considered adequate to regulate advertisement on private TV channels.

Composition of members of committee on TV censorship

3460. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of programme shown by private television channels aired in India that have been censored due to violence in the content;
- (b) the number of programmes specially dedicated to the age group between 6 and 12;
- (c) whether there is a committee on such censorship; and
- (d) if so, the qualification and experience of the members of such committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) and (b) There is no censorship of the content telecast on private TV channels. As per existing regulatory framework, the telecast of programmes on private satellite TV channels is regulated under