

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 719
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08/02/2021**

OBJECTIONABLE PROGRAMMES ON PRIVATE TV NETWORKS

719. SHRI ANIL DESAI:

Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that there are a number of instances when objectionable programmes have been shown on private Television networks;
- (b) whether there is any control over the programmes shown by various private Television networks similarly to film censor board for films; and
- (c) whether Government is considering issuing any guidelines for such network?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE; MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (c): All programmes telecast on private satellite TV channels are required to adhere to the Programme Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994 framed thereunder. The said Code contains a wide range of parameters to regulate objectionable content on TV channels. The Programme Code also provides that no film or film song or film promo or film trailer or music video or music albums or their promos, whether produced in India or abroad, shall be carried through cable service unless it has been certified by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) as suitable for unrestricted public exhibition in India.

An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC), set up by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, looks into complaints regarding violation of Programme and Advertising Codes and recommends action against the TV channels. Appropriate action is taken against TV channels in case violation of Programme and Advertising Codes is established. Action against TV channels may extend from issue of warnings, or advisories to comply with the Programme / Advertising Codes or directing channels to run apology scrolls on their channels and can extend upto taking the channel off-air temporarily for varying period depending on the gravity of the violation.

The Ministry has also established a framework to setup District level and State level Monitoring Committees to regulate content telecast on cable TV channels. The Ministry has issued various advisories from time to time to private satellite TV channels to comply with the provisions of Programme and Advertising Code.
