

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1508
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02/08/2021**

**VIOLATION OF LAWS BY DISCLOSING THE IDENTITY OF RAPE
VICTIMS/SURVIVORS**

1508. SHRI SHAKTISINH GOHIL:

Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some of the news channels have violated laws by disclosing the identity of rape victims/survivors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the action taken against the media organizations/houses or the reporters/journalists for having violated the said laws; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)**

(a) to (d): All programmes telecast on private satellite TV channels are required to adhere to the 'Programme Code' prescribed under the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994.

In pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Judgement dated 02.08.2018 in the matter of Sampurna Behura vs. UOI & Ors. in WP(C) No. 473 of 2005, this Ministry issued two advisories on 03rd August, 2018 and 31st August, 2018 advising all private TV channels not to display photo of victims of sexual abuse and to ensure strict compliance of the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The Ministry has taken action by issuance of advisory, warnings, running of apology scrolls by private TV channels for the violation.

Press Council of India has formulated the 'Norms of Journalistic Conduct' for adherence by the print media which include the norm on 'Right to Privacy'. It has been specifically provided that while reporting crime involving rape, the names, photographs of the victims or other particulars directly or indirectly leading to their identity shall not be published.
