GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2098 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2022

ADVERTISEMENTS OF BETTING AND GAMBLING MEDIA.

2098. SHRI ANEEL PRASAD HEGDE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that despite its advisory against advertising of betting and gambling in print, electronic and digital media, advertisements of offshore online betting and gambling websites are still being displayed;
- (b)if so, the action taken by Government thereof;
- (c) whether Government is aware that multiple advertisements are being run on live streaming platforms and other news websites; and
- (d) if so, the details of the action Government has taken against such non-compliant platforms?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): "Betting and Gambling" come under Entry 34 and 62 of List –II of the 7th Schedule of the Indian Constitution which provides for their regulation by States. Based on the erstwhile Public Gambling Act, 1867, most State Governments have accordingly enacted their own laws to deal with betting and gambling within their jurisdictions. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has issued an advisory dated 13.06.2022 to print, electronic and digital media to refrain from publishing advertisements of online betting platforms which are misleading, and do not appear to be in conformity with the Consumer Protection Act 2019, Advertisement Code under the Cable Television Networks Regulation Act, 1995, and advertisement norms under the Norms of Journalistic Conduct laid down by the Press Council of India.

There is an institutional mechanism for handling of grievances/complaints relating to violation of Codes and norms in respect of advertisements on various media platforms.
