GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1358

TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2023

REGULATION OF CONTENT ON OTT PLATFORMS

1358. SHRI SAKET GOKHALE:

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

- (a) whether Government of India plans to introduce content regulation for OTT platforms like Netflix, Amazon Prime, etc.; and
- (b) whether Government is planning to set up a censorship or certification mechanism for content on OTT platforms like Netflix, Amazon Prime, etc.?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (b): The Government has notified Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 (IT Rules, 2021) on 25th February, 2021 under Information Technology Act, 2000, which inter alia provides for publishers of online curated content (OTT platforms) to adhere to a Code of Ethics laid down in the Rules. The Code provides for self certification of content into 5 age based categories, based on general guidelines provided in the Schedule to the Rules.

The Rules also provide for a complaint based three-tier grievance redressal mechanism to address grievances/complaints relating to violation of the Code of Ethics.

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