

The permission for usage of facilities/infrastructure for live news/footage collection and transmission, irrespective of the technology used, will be available to only those channels which are uplinked from India and the channel/company has to ensure that its news and current affairs content provider(s), if any, are accredited with the Press Information Bureau.

(b) Only one channel has been permitted so far, under the revised guidelines.

(c) Yes, Sir. However, the applicant companies have been advised to apply afresh, as per the provisions of the revised guidelines, if they wished to do so.

Nudism in fashion show

2559. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that in the name of the fashion show the FTV is indulging in nudism; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to control such shows?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Programmes of all Satellite Channels, transmitted or re-transmitted through Cable Network, are required to adhere to the provisions of Programme Code and Advertising Code prescribed under Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder. The Programme code prohibits, *inter-alia*, carriage of programmes, which offend good taste or decency, contain anything obscene and which are derogatory to women. Action for violation of provisions of the Code can be taken by any authorized officer, *i.e.* SDM, DM, Commissioner of Police or any other officer notified in the Official Gazette by Central Government or State Government.

To look into the violations of Programme Code and Advertising Code, Government has constituted two Committees under Section 20 of the Cable Television Network (Regulations) Act, 1995. These

Committees, either *suo-moto* or on receipt of complaints, examine cases of violation of the Codes.

Concerns regarding content telecast on FTV were taken up with FTV in February-March 2001. FTV agreed to modify its programming to mitigate those concerns. In February 2002 the issue of broadcasting of Rio Carnival 2002 was taken up with FTV, who conveyed their apologies for telecasting the programme and immediately removed it from their programme list.

Dues of Prasar Bharati

12560. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the liability of Prasar Bharati is considerably high;

(b) if so, the up-to-date details of the liability payable to different State Governments; and

(c) by when Government are likely to clear the liability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Introduction of Metro Channel

2561. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have not introduced Metro Channel in all the States, particularly in UP and Uttaranchal and if so; how many States are covered by this Channel;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Metro Channel is not available in villages of UP and Government have provided only one National Channel in Uttaranchal;

(c) if so, by when Government would provide this Channel in Uttaranchal; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.