

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 30.11.2009
ANSWERED ON
EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN REALITY SHOWS .

155

Shri Shantaram Naik

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government has received any complaints regarding exploitation of children in the reality shows telecast by a number of TV channels;
- (b) if so, the nature of complaints received by Government, so far;
- (c) whether Government has examined this aspect;
- (d) if so, Government's view in the matters; and
- (e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

(SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a),(b),(c),(d)&(e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA ADMITTED STARRED QUESTION NO155 FOR 30.11.2009 REGARDING EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN REALITY SHOWS BY SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK

a) &b): The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), a statutory body, has received eight such complaints from the States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra and Kerala which also includes the complaints received in the Ministry of Women and Child Development. These complaints are regarding discrimination, emotional trauma, separation, anxiety, stress, lack of rest, leisure, and sleep disorder, etc. c), d) & e): NCPCR has examined the complaints and is taking necessary action in the matter. NCPCR has referred a complaint to Ministry of Information and Broadcasting against reality show `Pati, Patni Aur Woh` aired on NDTV Imagine Channel in which small babies up to the age of 1 year are being used as props to see whether celebrity couples are able to look after babies are not. The complaint has been examined by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and has issued a Show Cause Notice to the TV Channel as it appeared to be indecent exploitation of very young children in pursuit of entertainment. The reply of the Channel is under examination by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.