GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OFINFORMATION AND BROADCASTING RAJYA SABHA QUESTION NO07.03.2011 ANSWERED ON STATUS OF SHOW CAUSE NOTICES .

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Smt. Jayanthi Natarajan

Will the Minister of COALINFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :-

(a) whether it is a fact that some television channels of the country have recently been served with show cause notices by Government for telecasting excessive violence, abuses and obscenity in their programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some TV channels have gone to courts against the notices; and

(d) if so, the present status of each of the show cause notices issued by Government to TV channels?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. JATUA)

(a) and (b): The details of action taken by the Ministry against private Satellite TV channels during the last one year, i.e., from April 2010 till date, for such violations of the Programme Code laid down in the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994, are given in the statement at Annexure-I.

(c) to (d): In the last one year, two TV channels, viz. SS Music TV channel and Colors TV channel have filed Petitions in the Hon'ble Madras High Court and Hon'ble Bombay High Court respectively. The present status in these two cases is given in Annexure –II.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PART (a) AND (b) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION N0. 1149 FOR ANSWER ON 07.03.2011

Statement showing Show Cause Notices issued to private TV channels for showing obscenity, vulgarity and violence during last one year i.e. from April, 2010 to March, 2011 (upto 02.03.2011)

Sl.No. Name of the Channels Date of SCN issued Reasons for issue of SCN Action Taken

1 NDTV India 26.04.2010 Telecast of nude images of Tennis Player `Serena William` Warning dated 16.11.2010 issued to the channel.

2 FOX History

Channel 26.04.2010 Telecast programme `Madventures` which shown visuals of a man lying naked with `Sushi` spread on him. A Warning dated 23.08.2010 issued to the channel.

3 Jai Hind TV 26.04.2010 Telecast programme `Life Sketches` which denigrate women through depiction in an obscene manner. A Warning dated 23.08.2010 issued to the channel.

4 SS Music 13.05.2010 Telecast of programme titled `Sizzling Hits` which appeared to be obscene and vulgar An Order dated 16.11.2010 issued to the channel prohibition the channel from its transmission/re-transmission for 7 days. The channel moved to Hon`ble High Court of Madras against this order. The Hon`ble High Court set aside the above order. This Ministry has filed an appeal in the Hon`ble Court, which is pending.

5 Colors 02.6.2010 Telecast of an episode of the serial `Balika Vadhu` which denigrates children No violation established

6 Zee Telugu 14.06.2010 Telecast of vulgar, indecent and obscene reality show titled `Aata` An Advisory dated 16.11.2010 issued to the channel.

7 Star Plus 30.06.2010 Telecast of the tele-serial 'Pratigya' containing remarks against a particular community An Advisory dated 16.11.2010 issued to the channel.

8 Hungama 06.07.2010 Telecast of the animiated tele-serial `Shin Chan` containing obscene and indence content No violation established.

9 Star Plus 26.08.2010 Telecast of tele-serial `Tere Liye` containing remarks against a particular community A Warning dated 28.02.2011 was issued to the channel.

10 TV 5 11.10.2010 Telecast of factually incorrect news item regarding the death of Dr. Y.S. Rajashekhar Reddy, Former CM of Andhra Pradesh IMC reccomended to refer the matter to NBA. Order under issue.

11 Colors 09.12.2010 Telecast of reality show `Bigg Boss -4` not suitable for unrestricted public exhibition An Order dated 23.12.2010 issued to the channel directing to shift the programme anytime after 11.00 p.m. and to run an apology scroll. The channel has obtained a stay order from the hon'ble Bombay High Court. The programme came to an end in January 20011.

12 Colors 29.12.2010 Telecast of a tele-serial `Rishto Se Badi Pratha` - denigrating women and not suitable for unrestricted public exhibition.

Final Order under issue. 13 Imagine TV 30.12.2010 Telecast of tele-serial `Armaanon Ka Balidaan - Arakshan An Advisory dated 23.02.2011 was issued to the channel.

14 Bindass 22.02.2011 Telecast of the programme `Emotional Atyachar - Season 2` contaning obscene visuals and indecent and vulgar language. The reply from the Channel to the Show Cause Notice is awaited..

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PART (c) AND (d) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION N0. 1149 FOR ANSWER ON 07.03.2011

1. Status in case of SS Music channel

An Order dated 16.11.2010 was issued by the Ministry to the channel prohibition the channel from its transmission/re-transmission for 7 days. The channel moved to Hon`ble High Court of Madras against this order. The Hon`ble High Court set aside the above order. This Ministry has filed an appeal in the Division Bench of the Hon`ble Court, which is pending.

2. Status in case of Colors channel

An Order dated 23.12.2010 was issued by the Ministry to the channel directing it, inter-alia, to shift the programme anytime after 11.00 p.m. and to run an apology scroll. The channel has obtained a stay order from the Hon'ble Bombay High Court. The programme came to an end in January 20011.