

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1508
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24/12/2018**

GUIDELINES FOR MEDIA COVERAGE DURING CONFLICT SITUATIONS

1508. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN:

Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are no guidelines or standard operating procedures at present for media persons to cover emergency and conflict situations and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) details of measures taken by the Ministry to regulate and monitor media coverage during conflict situations in the aftermath of the 26/11 attacks?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF
INFORMATION & BROADCASTING
[COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)]**

(a) to (c): The Programme Code under the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994 inter-alia provides that TV Channels shall not carry any programme that contains live coverage of any anti-terrorist operation by security forces, and during such operation, media coverage shall be restricted to periodic briefing by an officer designated by the appropriate Government, till such operation concludes.

As per existing regulatory framework, all programmes and advertisements telecast on private satellite TV channels are required to be in conformity with the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994 framed thereunder. These codes contain guidelines to be followed while carrying programmes and advertisements on such TV channels. Violation of the codes attracts penal action.
