GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 244 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2022

REGULATION OF OTT PLATFORMS

244. SMT. PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI:

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

- (a) whether Government intends to set up a regulatory body for the regulation of OTT platforms, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the reasons for not including OTT platforms within the jurisdiction of Press Council of India?

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 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 Rules also provide for a three-tier grievance redressal mechanism to look into grievances/ complaints relating to violation of the Code of Ethics by the publishers (OTT platforms).

(c): The Press Council of India (PCI) has been established as an autonomous body under the Press Council Act, 1978 to maintain and improve the standards of newspaper and news agencies and inculcate principles of self-regulation among the press. OTT platforms are not covered under the Press Council Act.
