## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

### RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3922 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/04/2023

#### **GUIDELINES FOR ISSUING WARNINGS TO VIEWERS**

#### 3922. DR. FAUZIA KHAN:

#### Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has issued any guidelines to television news channels for issuing trigger warnings before showing violent or sensitive content, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has undertaken any study in this regard, if so the details thereof;
- (c) the measures and steps taken by Government to regulate such programmes on television news; and
- (d) whether Government has observed any negative impact of such content on the public, and if so, the details thereof?

#### **ANSWER**

# MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) to (d): All programmes telecast on private satellite TV channels are required to adhere to the Programme Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the rules framed thereunder. The Programme Code contains a wide range of parameters to regulate content on TV channels. It inter-alia provides that no programme should be carried in the cable service which offends against good taste or decency or which is likely to encourage or incite violence or contains anything against maintenance of law and order or which promote anti-national attitudes, etc.

The Government issues advisories from time to time to the broadcasters for adherence to the Programme Code. Recently, an advisory was issued on 09.01.2023 to all private satellite TV channels against airing disturbing footage/images of incidents of death, accident & violence which are violative of Programme Code. The Government has a statutory mechanism under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder to deal with the complaints / grievances received against any content telecast by a Private Satellite TV channel. Appropriate action is taken in cases where Programme Code is found to be violated.

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