GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *122 TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2024

DIGITAL PIRACY ON OTT PLATFORMS

*122. SHRI MANAS RANJAN MANGARAJ

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to take any action to address issues related to digital piracy and unauthorized distribution of content on Over-The-Top (OTT) platforms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is taking any steps to promote digital literacy and consumer awareness regarding safe and responsible usage of OTT platforms, particularly among vulnerable or younger audience; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING &
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(DR. L. MURUGAN)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO *122 FOR ANSWER ON 02.08.2024

(a) to (d):- The content of publishers of news and current affairs on digital media and the content of publishers of online curated content (OTT Platforms) is regulated under the provisions of Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media, Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 notified on 25.02.2021 under IT Act, 2000. The Part-III of the rules, administered by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, provides for a Code of Ethics for such publishers. The Code of Ethics for OTT, inter-alia, prohibits them to transmit any content which is prohibited by any law for the time being in force, including Copyright Act, 1957.

The Code also provides that the OTT platforms will undertake age-based self classification of content, based on general guidelines provided in the Schedule to the Rules, along with adequate safeguards for restricting age-inappropriate content for children with adequate access control measures.
