

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2322**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2025**

**MANDATORY PRE-CERTIFICATION CHECKS ON OTT PLATFORM CONTENT**

**2322 SHRI S NIRANJAN REDDY:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that weak regulatory checks on OTT platform content make minors vulnerable to harmful content;
- (b) whether Government plans to include mandatory pre-certification checks on OTT content similar to films under the Cinematograph Act; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

## **ANSWER**

### **MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS**

**(DR. L. MURUGAN)**

(a) to (c): Government has notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media, Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 on 25.02.2021 under IT Act, 2000 in order to put in place an institutional mechanism for publishers of news & current affairs on digital media and publishers of online curated content (OTT Platforms).

Part-III of the rules provides for a Code of Ethics for digital news publishers and publishers of online curated content (OTT platforms). As per the Code of Ethics, OTT platforms are under obligation to not transmit any content which is prohibited by law for the time being in force.

The platforms are required to undertake age-based classification of content and restrict age-inappropriate content for children using adequate access control measures.

The rules further provide a three-tier grievance redressal mechanism as follows:

- Level I: Self-regulation by the publishers
- Level II: Self-regulation by the self-regulating bodies of the publishers
- Level III - Oversight mechanism by the Central Government

Complaints relating to the violation of the Code of Ethics are addressed under the provisions of the three-tier grievance redressal mechanism and complaints received by the Ministry are forwarded to the concerned OTT platforms for resolution as per IT Rules, 2021.

Section 79(3)(b) of IT Act, 2000 provides for notification to the intermediaries for removing/disabling access to unlawful content.

The Government has disabled 43 OTT platforms for public access in India for displaying obscene content.

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