

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1792
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28/12/2017**

PAID STREAMING & VIDEO-ON-DEMAND SERVICES

1792. SHRI KESINENI NANI:

Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

be pleased to state:

- (a) the size of the paid streaming and video-on-demand services in the country;
- (b) whether there are any regulations governing the paid streaming and video-on-demand services provided over the internet;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, whether the Government proposes to regulate the same and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): There are no official figures available with this Ministry with regard to the 'Over the Top' (OTT) industry viz. paid streaming and Video on Demand services in India. However, some private research organisations like Frost and Sullivan have pegged it around 70 million unique connected viewers of which 1.3 million are paid video subscribers.

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting does not regulate paid streaming and video on demand services provided over the internet. However, there are enough safeguards available under the Information Technology Act, 2000 which is administered by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) for content appearing on paid streaming and video on demand services provided over the internet.

MEITY is empowered to block information/websites/URLs under Section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000. This Section has provisions for blocking of Universal Resource Locators only in specific scenarios of (i) Defence of India (ii) Sovereignty and Integrity of India (iii) Security of State (iv) Foreign relations with foreign states (v) Public Order (vi) or for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognizable offence relating to above.

Sections 67, 67A and 67B of the IT Act makes publishing/ transmitting/hosting of pornographic content including child pornographic content criminal offence. Law Enforcement agencies regularly monitor the web and social media and take appropriate action for blocking of such URLs whenever they notice hosting of objectionable contents as per provision of rules notified under Section 69A of Information Technology Act 2000.
