

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3764
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09/08/2018**

GUIDELINES FOR PRIVATE CHANNELS

3764. SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to issue any guidelines for private TV channels so that such channels do not hurt the feelings/emotions of people by portraying incidents in a sensational manner;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has put a check on those TV channels showing anti-national activities or are functioning negatively; and
- (d) if so, the number of such channels blocked during the last two years?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): As per existing regulatory framework, all programmes and advertisements telecast on private satellite TV channels and transmitted/re-transmitted through the Cable TV network are required to adhere to the Programme Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994 framed thereunder, which inter-alia restrains TV channels from showing any programme which (a) contains attack on religions or communities or visuals or words contemptuous of religious groups or which promote communal attitudes; (b) contains anything obscene, defamatory, deliberate, false and suggestive innuendos and half-truths; (c) likely to encourage or incite violence or contains anything against maintenance of law and order or which promote anti-national attitudes; and (d) contains live coverage of any anti-terrorist operation by security forces, wherein media coverage shall be restricted to periodic briefing by an officer designated by the appropriate Government, till such operation concluded.

(c) & (d) The Government has set up Electronic Media Monitoring Centre (EMMC) to monitor the content of private TV channels with reference to the violation of Programme and Advertising Codes. An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) has also been set up in the Ministry to take cognizance suo-moto or look into the specific complaints against the violation of Programme and Advertising Codes. The Ministry has also issued directions to States to set up District level and State level Monitoring Committees to monitor content telecast on cable TV channels.

Action is taken against TV channels whenever any violation of the Programme and Advertising Codes is established. Ministry generally issues warnings or advisories to comply with the Programme/Advertising Codes or asks the channels to scroll apologies on their channels. Occasionally, the channels are also taken off air temporarily for a limited period depending on the gravity of the violation. Details of private TV channels asked to go off air for telecasting content in violation of the Programme and Advertisement Codes during the last two years is at **Annexure**.

ANNEXURE**ANNEXURE REFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) AND (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3764 FOR ANSWER ON 09.08.2018**

List of private TV channels asked to go off air for telecasting content in violation of the Programme and Advertisement Codes during the last two years and the current year.

Sl. No.	Name of the Channels	Reason for Show Cause Notice/Details of content telecast by TV channels	Details of action taken
1.	NDTV INDIA	Telecast of news report on Pathankot terrorist attack disclosing sensitive information well beyond the briefing given by the designated officer while the anti-terrorist operations were underway.	An order was issued on 02.11.2016 to the channel to prohibit the transmission or re-transmission of channel for one day.
2.	Care World	Telecast of obscene programme 'Kya Karu Mai Aab	An order was issued on 02.11.2016 to the channel to prohibit the transmission or re-transmission of channel for seven days
3.	News Time Assam	Telecast of news report revealing the identity of minor boy. Telecast of News bulletins showing disturbing visuals of dead bodies. Telecast of news story defaming the image of an MLA and denigrating women.	An order dated 02.11.2016 was issued to the channel to prohibit the transmission or re-transmission of channel for one day (to carry out the three awards of one day off air concurrently)
4.	VTV	Telecast of News programme 'Viral Truth' showing disturbing visuals of violence.	An order was issued on 12.12.2017 to the channel to prohibit the transmission or re-transmission of channel for one day.
5.	DY 365	Telecast of a news report showing visuals denigrating child.	An order was issued on 13.12.2017 to the channel to prohibit the transmission or re-transmission of channel for three days.
