

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2658
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27/12/2018**

COMPLAINTS AGAINST TV CHANNELS

**2658. SHRI AJAY NISHAD:
SHRI SADASHIV LOKHANDE:**

Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding broadcasting of the programmes on Doordarshan, private TV channels and news channels which promote witchcraft, superstition and false religious propaganda during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government against such TV channels during each of the last three years and the current year, channel-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to discourage/check the said programmes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a): Programmes telecast on private satellite TV channels are regulated as per the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the Rules framed thereunder. Rules 6(1)(j) of the Programme Code prescribed under Cable Television Network Rules, 1994 provides that no programme should be carried in the Cable Service which encourages superstition and blind-belief. Suitable action is taken, if any violation of the Programme Code is established. Prasar Bharati has informed that no such complaint has been received in Doordarshan in the recent past.

(b) to (e): The Ministry receives complaints regarding alleged violation of the Programme Code which are examined through an instrument of Inter-Ministerial Committee and action is taken against the violators. During the last three years and the current year, 24 Warnings/Advisories have been issued to various private channels for violation of Programme Code including for encouraging superstition etc.
