GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.21
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.06.2019)

VULGARITY IN TV PROGRAMMES

21.   SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

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

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the extensive depiction of vulgarity in Doordarshan as well as private channels;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to bring amendment in the Indian Penal Code as well as in the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986 and other related Acts;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which this amendment will be brought?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE; AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b): All TV channels including Doordarshan are required to conform to the Programme Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994 which inter-alia provides that no programme should be carried in the cable service which denigrates women through the depiction in any manner of the figure of a woman, her form or body or any part thereof in such a way as to have the effect of being indecent or derogatory to women, or is likely to deprave, corrupt or injure the public morality or morals. The Government has from time to time issued advisory and warnings to private TV channels who are found to have violated the said Programme Code.

(c) to (e): Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that at present there is no proposal to amend the Indian Penal Code with regard to vulgarity in TV programmes. Further, Ministry of Women & Child Development has informed that the Ministry has taken a considered view to withdraw the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Amendment Bill, 2012 in the present form in view of the technological advancement in the field of communications such as social media platforms etc.

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