GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1843

TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2023

OTT LICENSE.

1843. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:

SHRI ARUN SAO:

SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI MOHAN MANDAVI:

SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAM SHRANGARE:

SHRI RANJEETSINGH NAIK NIMBALKAR:

SHRI VIJAY BAGHEL:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the OTT (Over The Top) platforms do not require a license to operate;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the remedial steps taken by the Government to regulate the content delivery on the OTT platforms not having license to operate?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR):

(a) to (c): The Government has notified Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, on 25th February, 2021 under Information Technology Act, 2000. These Rules inter- alia provide that publishers of online curated content (OTT Platforms) shall adhere to a Code of Ethics laid down therein and a three-level Grievance Redressal Mechanism for addressing grievances relating to the violation of the Code of Ethics by such publishers.

The Rules do not mandate OTT platforms to seek prior permission of the Government. However, they are required to furnish information to the Government under rule 18 of the said Rules.
