

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2002
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01/08/2023**

BROADCAST OF OBSCENE CONTENTS ON CHANNELS

**2002. DR. MANOJ RAJORIA:
SHRIMATI RANJEETA KOLI:**

Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that obscene material or the sentiments hurting content of a religion are being broadcast through various films or other mediums;
- (b) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent/ban broadcast of obscene content on various channels;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any guidelines in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the number of channels against which action has been taken by the Government for violating the said guidelines and the details of the action taken in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) sanctions films for public exhibition in accordance with the Cinematograph Act, 1952, Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983 and the Guidelines issued thereunder by the Government. Accordingly, while granting certification to the film/s with obscenity and religious content, it is ensured that all relevant guidelines are strictly adhered to and that there is no violation.

All private satellite TV channels are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes as prescribed in the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the Rules framed thereunder. The Programme Code inter alia provides that a programme should not be telecast which contains anything obscene, or contains attack on religion or communities or visuals or words contemptuous of religious groups or which promote communal attitudes. The Advertising Code, inter-alia stipulates that indecent, vulgar, suggestive, repulsive and offensive themes or treatment shall be avoided in all advertisements. Further, films on TV channels can be telecast which are duly certified by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) as suitable for unrestricted public exhibition in India. The Ministry issues Advisories from time to time to private satellite TV channels for adhering to the said Codes.

Government takes appropriate action in case of violation of the Codes, which includes, issuance of advisories, warnings, directing channels to run apology scroll, taking the channels off air, etc. During the last three years and the current year such action has been taken in 142 cases.
