

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3101**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2023**

**DRAFT POLICY TO CHECK CONTENT ON OTT PLATFORMS**

**3101. SHRI MITESH RAMESHBHAI PATEL (BAKABHAI):**

**SHRIMATI SHARDABEN ANILBHAI PATEL:**

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

**(a) whether the Government proposes to draft any policy to ensure that no identity, religious and regional sentiments should get hurt by the content on Over-the-Top (OTT) platforms in the country;**

**(b) if so, the details thereof; and**

**(c) the details of the existing policy in this context to reduce vulgarity on these platforms?**

## **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, which inter alia requires OTT platforms to adhere to a Code of Ethics laid down in the Rules. The Code provides for general principles to be followed by OTT platforms, including that a publisher shall take into consideration India's multi-racial and multi-religious context and exercise due caution and discretion when featuring the activities, beliefs, practices or view of any racial religious group. The Code also requires OTT platforms not to transmit any content which is prohibited by law and to undertake age based self-classification of content, based on general guidelines provided in the Schedule to the Rules.**

**The Rules also provide for a three-tier grievance redressal mechanism to look into grievances/ complaints relating to violation of the Code of Ethics by the OTT platforms.**

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