

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.961

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.11.2019)

SERIALS TELECASTING SUPERSTITION CONTENT

961. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

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

- (a) whether a number of serials based on black magic, humbug and superstition are being telecast on Doordarshan and private channels;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and**
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ban such serials?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Prasar Bharati has informed that programme and advertisement of Doordarshan are telecast as per the Doordarshan Broadcast Code/Commercial Code for advertisement and in conformity of programme and advertising codes prescribed under the Cable Television Network Rules 1994 enshrined under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995.

Prasar Bharati has further informed that no serial based on Black Magic, hypocrisy, humbug and superstitions are being broadcast on Doordarshan.

So far as Private Satellite Channels are concerned, programmes telecast on private satellite TV channels are regulated as per Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the Rules framed thereunder.

Rule 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. During the last three years and the current year, 38 Advisories, 39 Warnings, 30 Orders for running Apology Scrolls and 8 off-air Orders have been issued to various private channels for violation of Programme Code including for encouraging superstition etc.
