

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 239
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/03/2020**

TELECAST OF OBSCENE CONTENT

***239. SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARASWATI:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that obscene content is telecast on various channels;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ban such content;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any guidelines in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the number of channels against which action has been taken for violation of the said guidelines during the last three years and the current year along with the details of the action taken?

ANSWER

**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 (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d)
OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 239 FOR ANSWER ON
06.03.2020

(a) to (d): 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, as well as the Uplinking and Downlinking Guidelines 2011 issued by this Ministry.

The Programme Code, under the said Act and the Rules, inter-alia, prohibit telecast of a programme which contains anything obscene, defamatory, deliberate, false and suggestive innuendos and half-truths. The Advertising Code under the said Act and the Rules, inter-alia, stipulates that indecent, vulgar, suggestive, repulsive and offensive themes or treatment shall be avoided in all advertisements.

Appropriate action is taken against TV channels in case violation of the aforesaid Programme & Advertising Codes is established. Action against TV channels may extend from issue of warnings or advisories to comply with the Programme/Advertising Codes or directing channels to run apology scrolls on their channels and can extend up to taking the channels off air temporarily for varying period depending on the gravity of the violation.

Details of action taken against telecast of obscene content by private satellite channels during the last three years and the current year are as under:

Sl. No.	Action taken	Number of Channels
1.	Advisories	05
2.	Warnings	04
3.	Orders for running apology scroll	10
4.	Off Air Orders	02
TOTAL		21
