

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1064
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07/02/2020**

FAKE NEWS

1064. SHRIMATI MALA ROY:

Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of broadcast of fake news and sensationalization of news by various news channels in the country and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) whether the Government has any mechanism to monitor the content of news being broadcast by various news channels and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has chalked out a plan to check such news and punish the guilty ;
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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): The Programme Code framed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 inter alia prohibits telecast of a programme which contains anything obscene, defamatory, deliberate, false and suggestive innuendos and half-truths.

An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC), set up by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, looks into violations of Programme Code and recommends action against the TV Channels and appropriate action is taken against TV channels in case violation of the 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.

States have set-up District level and State level Monitoring Committees to monitor content telecast on cable TV channels.
