

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3265
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.03.2020**

REVIEW OF MEDIA UNITS

3265. DR. VISHNU PRASAD M.K.:

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

- (a) whether any review of operation of the media units working under his Ministry was done recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has asked the States and UTs to restrict airing objectionable contents and unauthorized channels and ensure effective implementation of Cable TV Act and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to install FM transmitters at different places of the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether any decision has been taken by the Government in regard to publications under the Press and Registration Act and 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) & (b): Functioning of some of the media units under Ministry of Information and Broadcasting was reviewed with a view to bring convergence and synergy, whereby the erstwhile media units, viz. Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP), Directorate of Field Publicity (DFP) and Song & Drama Division (S&DD) were merged on 8th December, 2017 to create a new entity, namely the Bureau of Outreach and

Communication (BOC). Review of the operations of media units is carried out from time to time.

(c): All TV channels are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes as prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995. The Central Government had on 26th April, 2017 issued detailed guidelines regarding constitution of State/ District Level Monitoring Committee to ensure adherence of these Codes to all Chief Secretaries of States and Administrators of Union Territories, State Information Secretaries and all District Magistrates. These have also been reiterated in July 2019.

With regard to transmission of unauthorized channels, the Ministry issued an Advisory under Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 on 8th July, 2016 to the Authorised Officers in the State Governments/ UT administrations, to ensure that only Satellite Channels permitted by the Union Government are transmitted by Cable Operators. The registered Multi Service Operators (MSOs) have also been directed not to carry on their networks the Satellite TV Channels which are not permitted by the Government.

(d): Prasar Bharti has 501 FM transmitters at present in the country. Prasar Bharti expands its FM Radio Network by establishing new FM stations as per approved projects under Central Sector Scheme of Government of India as per the need and demand in a particular area.

(e): Registration of publication, including newspapers, is done by Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) under the provisions of 'Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867' and the extant procedure laid down for this purpose.
