GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1072 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18/09/2020

VIOLATION OF PROGRAMME AND ADVERTISING CODES

1072. SHRI KUMBAKUDI SUDHAKARAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the television channels that were asked to go off air for violating Programme and Advertising Codes in 2018 and 2019;
- (b) whether there has been an increase in the number of channels asked to go off air in 2020 in comparison to the previous year and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there have been instances where a television channel has violated the same ethical code repeatedly and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government on those channels who have violated the same ethical code repeatedly?

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 (b): Under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation)
Act, 1995, the Central Government is empowered to regulate
or prohibit the transmission of a channel or a programme under
specified conditions or if it is found to be in violation of
Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable
Television Networks Rules, 1994.

During 2018, order was issued in respect of one TV channel to go off air as against three channels in 2019 and two channels in 2020.

(c) to (d): The Government takes action in cases where Programme / Advertising Codes are found to be violated by the private TV channels, including issuance of advisory, warning, running an apology scroll and in extreme cases, directing the channel to be off air for a certain time duration. While imposing these penalties, past history of violation of programme / advertising codes is taken into account.
