GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2866 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12/03/2021

MEDIA TRIALS

2866. SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of parallel media trials being carried out by certain sections of media in several cases and if so, the response of the Government thereto;
- (b) whether there is any law to restrict such media trials and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, whether the Government would consider to bring new rules to restrain media from such trials once law enforcement agencies begin investigation 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) to (c): Hon'ble High Court of judicature at Bombay in the matter of PIL (ST) No. 92252 of 2020 with IA No. 95156 of 2020, PIL (ST) No.1774 of 2020, Civil PIL-CJ-LD-VC No. 40 of 2020, PIL (L) No.3145 of 2020 & Criminal PIL (ST) No.2339 of 2020 related to reporting of Sushant Singh case by media, has issued directions

with respect to the media coverage of cases under enquiry/investigation, etc. vide order dated 18.01.2021 which have been conveyed to the broadcasters.

The Press Council of India has framed the 'Norms of Journalistic Conduct' which inter alia have guidelines specifically on 'Trial by Media'.
