GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2612 TO BE ANSWERED ON 14/12/2021

VIOLATION OF CODE OF ETHICS

2612. ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that National Broadcasting and Digital Standards Authority has found that some television news channels violated code of ethics during its programmes;
- (b) if so, which are the news channels and details of such programmes telecasted:
- (c) the details of action taken against these channels;
- (d) whether the Government is considering any action against news channels and anchors continuously violating code of ethics; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): The National Broadcasting and Digital Standards
Authority is a non Governmental body and is not registered with
the Central Government under the Cable Television Networks
(Amendment) Rules, 2021.

(d) to (e): As per existing regulatory framework, all programmes and advertisements telecast on private satellite TV channels are required to adhere to the Programme Code and Advertising Code laid down under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the rules framed there under. The Cable Television Networks (Amendment) Rules, 2021 dated 17th June 2021 provide a statutory framework for redressal of grievances in relation to Programme Code and the Advertising Code with a three level mechanism, Level-I – Self-regulation by broadcasters, Level-II – Self-regulation by self regulating bodies of the broadcasters and Level-III oversight mechanism of the Central Government.

The Government takes action in appropriate cases where violation of the Programme Code or Advertising Code is established, by issuance of Advisories, Warnings, Apology scroll orders and off-air orders.
