

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 370**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2021**

**RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR OTT PLATFORMS**

**370. SHRI RAJENDRA DHEDYA GAVIT**

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

**(a) Whether the existing rules and regulations do not prevent the transmission of objectionable content broadcast by Over-the-Top (OTT) platforms, if so, the details thereof;**

**(b) Whether the rich cultural traditions and beliefs of the country are being harmed by these contents, if so, the details thereof ;**

**(c) Whether the contents available on such platforms can have negative impact on the mindset of the adolescents, if so the details thereof ;**

**(d) Whether OTT platforms now come under the purview of the Government as per the notification issued earlier by the Government; and if so , the details thereof ; and**

**(e) Whether the Government has any specific legislation that regulates OTT platforms to ensure that peoples' sentiments are taken care of, if so , the details thereof ?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND  
MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS**

**(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR):**

**(a) to (e):- Government has notified Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, on 25th February, 2021 under Information Technology Act, 2000. A copy of the Rules is available on the website of the Ministry i.e. [www.mib.gov.in](http://www.mib.gov.in).**

**Part-III of the Rules, inter- alia, provide for Code of Ethics to be followed by publishers of news & current affairs on digital media and publishers of online curated content (OTT Platforms). The Code of Ethics for OTT platforms specifies general principles to be followed by the platforms for carriage of content, classification of content into five age based categories, display of such classification, and restricting access to children of higher rated content. Schedule to the Rules lays down guiding principles for content classification.**

**The Rules also provide for a three-level Grievance Redressal Mechanism relating to the violation of Code of Ethics by the publishers.**

**As per the Allocation of Business Rules (as amended on 9.11.2020) the subject relating to content of news and current affairs and audio-visual content on online platforms is under the mandate of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.**

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