

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3116
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2022**

CHANGES IN PRESS COUNCIL OF INDIA GUIDELINES

3116. MS. DEBASREE CHAUDHURI:

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

- (a) whether there are any specified guidelines containing subjects, description and presentation of News in Electronics and Print Media, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that some news channels present news items in a manner which encourages communal disharmony, social bitterness and encroaches upon individual liberty, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering for making necessary changes in the Press Council of India guidelines to discourage such practices by few Electronics and Print Media;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) The Government has a statutory and institutional mechanism in place regarding content on Electronic and Print Media, including following:

For Print Media, Press Council of India (PCI), a statutory autonomous body set up under the Press Council Act, 1978 with twin objectives to preserve the freedom of the Press and to maintain and improve the standards of newspapers and news agencies in India. Under section 13(2) of the Press Council Act, 1978, the Council has framed 'Norms of Journalistic Conduct' for adherence by the media. The Council has power to conduct enquiry into complaints received by it.

For Electronic Media (Television), all TV Channels are required to adhere to the Programme Code under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995.

Appropriate action is taken when violation of codes are found.
