

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 394  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24/07/2024**

**BAN ON TELECAST OF OBSCENE ADVERTISEMENTS ON TELEVISION CHANNELS**

**394. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE:**

Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some advertisements of cigarette, tobacco and wine have been telecast by different television channels during the last three years and are being telecast presently also;
- (b) whether obscene contents are being telecast by the Doordarshan Centres also at large scale;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has received any suggestions or memorandum during the last three years demanding to impose ban on telecast of obscene advertisements/contents; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING,  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI  
VAISHNAW)**

**(a): All Advertisement telecast on private satellite TV channels are required to adhere to the Advertising Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the rules framed thereunder. The Advertising Code, inter-alia stipulates that no advertisement shall be permitted which promotes directly or indirectly production, sale or consumption of cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol, liquor or other intoxicants.**

**(b) & (c): Doordarshan Channels do not telecast advertisements of cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol, liquor or other intoxicants as well as obscene advertisements/contents. Doordarshan telecasts Programme and Advertisements as per the Programme Code and Advertising Code of Prasar Bharati.**

**(d) & (e): During the last three years, from 2021 till 18.07.2024, Government received a total of 492 public grievances/ complaints/ suggestions on alleged violations of Advertising Code including obscene advertisements/content. There is a 3-tier Grievance Redressal Mechanism established under the Cable Television Networks (Amendment) Rules, 2021 for redressal of grievances related to violation of programme and advertising code which includes self-regulation by broadcasters, self-regulation by self-regulating bodies of the broadcasters and an oversight mechanism of the Central Government. The Government takes appropriate action only in cases where violation of the programme and advertisement code is established.**

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