

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3103**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2025**

**REGULATION OF OBSCENE CONTENT ON YOUTUBE**

**3103. SHRI JAI PRAKASH:**

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

**(a) whether the Government has received references from Members of Parliament, representation from statutory organizations along with public grievances regarding alleged spread of obscene, pornographic and vulgar content published by certain publishers of Online Curated Content (OTT) platforms and social media especially in the aftermath of the Hon'ble Supreme Court advocacy for the regulation of obscene content on YouTube; and**

**(b) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND  
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS**

**(DR. L MURUGAN):**

**(a) & (b): The Government has notified Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 (IT Rules, 2021) on 25th February, 2021 under Information Technology Act, 2000.**

**Part-III of these Rules, administered by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, provides for a Code of Ethics for publishers of online curated content (OTT platforms) which, inter alia, requires the publishers not to transmit any content which is prohibited by law for the time being in force and to undertake age based self-classification of content into 5 categories, based on general guidelines provided in the Schedule to the Rules.**

**Besides, Section 79(3)(b) of IT Act, 2000 provides for notification by appropriate Governments of unlawful act or content to the intermediaries for removing/disabling access to such content. Regarding obscene content on OTT platforms, the Government takes action against such content under the existing statutory framework.**

**Towards this end the Ministry has also issued an advisory dated 19.02.2025 to OTT platforms and Self-regulatory Bodies of OTT platforms for ensuring adherence to Indian laws and the Code of Ethics laid down under the IT Rules, 2021 while hosting of content on their platforms.**

**\*\*\*\*\***