

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3126**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2025**

**VIOLATION OF RULES ON OTT PLATFORMS**

**3126. SHRI SUKHJINDER SINGH RANDHAWA:**

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

**(a) whether rules are being violated on OTT platforms;**

**(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to take action against OTT platforms;**

**(c) if so, the details thereof;**

**(d) whether information is being sought for registration of age on OTT platforms; and**

**(e) if so, the said information is being sought for the purpose of data collection?**

## ANSWER

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

(DR. L MURUGAN):

(a) to (e): The Government has notified the 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 the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting provides for a Code of Ethics for publishers of online curated content (OTT platforms) and a Grievance Redressal Mechanism to look into complaints relating to violation of this Code of Ethics. The Code of Ethics for OTT platforms provides that they will not transmit any content which is prohibited by law for the time being in force and will undertake age-based self classification of content, based on general guidelines provided in the Schedule to the Rules.

Code of Ethics also provides that a publisher of online curated content shall implement a reliable age verification mechanism for viewership of content or programme that is classified as under:

<b>Nature of Content (suitable for)</b>	<b>Classification</b>
<b>Unrestricted access, regardless of age, and is family friendly</b>	<b>U</b>
<b>For persons aged 7 years and above, and can be viewed by a person under the age of 7 years with parental guidance</b>	<b>U/A 7+</b>
<b>For persons aged 13 years and above, and can be viewed by a person under the age of 13 years with parental guidance</b>	<b>U/A 13+</b>
<b>For persons aged 16 years and above, and can be viewed by a person under the age of 16 years with parental guidance</b>	<b>U/A 16+</b>
<b>Restricted to adults</b>	<b>A</b>

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