

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4207**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2025**

**CONTENT MODERATION ON OTT PLATFORMS**

**4207. SHRI TRIVENDRA SINGH RAWAT:**

**SHRI TEJASVI SURYA:**

**SHRI TAPIR GAO:**

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

**(a) the regulation model for OTT platforms along with the salient features of the guidelines that they are being made to follow;**

**(b) whether the Government has made it mandatory for OTT platforms to disclose their internal content moderation and age-classification processes;**

**(c) whether the Government is considering to amend the IT Rules, 2021 to impose stringent penalties in case of violations by OTT platforms; and**

**(d) if so, the details of the proposed amendments and penalties in this regard?**

## **ANSWER**

### **THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. L MURUGAN):**

**(a) to (d): 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 as under: based on general guidelines provided in the Schedule to the Rules**

<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>

**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.**

**Government takes action against OTT platforms for hosting/streaming obscene content under the existing statutory framework.**

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