

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1785

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2007

BAN ON CERTAIN PRIVATE CHANNELS

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan;Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Shaheen Shri Abdul Rashid;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan;Singh Shri Mohan;Tripathi Shri Chandramani;Yadav Shri Baleshwar

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

- (a) whether the Government has banned certain TV channels particularly AXN channel for telecasting obscene and vulgar programmes recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the present law to check obscenity and vulgarity on television and other visual media has been found to be inadequate to achieve its objectives;
- (d) if so, the factors attributed thereto;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to set up Censor Board for the TV channels on the lines of Film Censor Board; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps initiated in this regard so far?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The distribution of AXN channel was prohibited in India with immediate effect vide Ministry's Order dated 17.01.2007 till 15.3.2007. Later the same has been withdrawn w.e.f. 1.3.2007 subsequent to the submission of apology by the channel.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e) & (f): No, Sir. However, under the proposed Broadcasting Services Regulation Bill, provisions have been made for a Broadcasting Regulatory Authority (BRAI), which will take care of all aspects of broadcasting.