

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:285  
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2004  
OBSCENE PROGRAMMES  
Sethi Shri Arjun Charan

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

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- (a) whether in the recent months discussions were held between private TV channels representatives and Censor Board on September 16, 2004 to discuss inter- alia growing display of obscene programmes on the pretext of entertainment to viewers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to crack down and direct the channels to stop such programmes; and
- (d) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) to (d): In view of the concerns shown by various sections of the society regarding telecast of the programmes unsuitable for unrestricted public exhibition by various TV channels, the Government issued instructions to all TV channels in November, 2003 not to telecast any movie, preview of movies, movie trailers, music videos or their promos unless these are certified for unrestricted public exhibition by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC). As violations were still reported, the instructions were further reiterated by a letter dated 10th August, 2004 to all channels. To further impress upon various TV channels the need to adhere to the laid down code, a meeting was convened in September, 2004 which was attended by the Chairman, CBFC, representatives of some private TV channels, Prasar Bharati and Indian Broadcasting Foundation along with representatives of concerned Central Ministries. During the meeting, the private TV channels assured their cooperation to the Government in this regard.