

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2044
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29/11/2019**

PENALTY ON CHANNELS

2044. SHRI SHYAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to ban the broadcast of obscene content on various channels;
- (b) whether there are any guidelines framed by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the number of channels that have been penalised for violation of the said guidelines along with the nature of penalty?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE;
MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER
OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)**

(a) to (c): All private satellite TV channels are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes as prescribed in the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the Rules framed thereunder, as well as the Uplinking and Downlinking Guidelines 2011 issued by this Ministry.

Contd.....2/-

Under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, the Central Government is empowered to prohibit transmission of a channel or a programme if it is considered necessary due to national security or in public interest or if it is found to be in violation of Programme & Advertising Codes. Similar mandate is available under the Uplinking and Downlinking Guidelines, 2011 in respect of private satellite TV channels.

Appropriate action is taken against TV channels in case violation of the aforesaid Programme & Advertising Codes is established. Action against TV channels may extend from issue of warnings or advisories to comply with the Programme/Advertising Codes or directing channels to run apology scrolls on their channels and can extend up to taking the channels off air temporarily for varying period depending on the gravity of the violation.

Details of action taken against telecast of different violations including obscene content by private satellite channels since 2016 are as under:

Sl. No.	Action taken	Number
1.	Advisories	46
2.	Warnings	39
3.	Orders for running apology scroll	30
4.	Off Air Orders	09
TOTAL		124
