

**N-41011/24/2023-BC-III (182401)**  
**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**  
**'A' WING, SHASTRI BHAWAN,**  
**NEW DELHI – 110001**

September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

To

All Private Satellite TV Channels

**Subject: Adherence to Section 20 of the Cable Television Networks  
(Regulation) Act, 1995**

Sir/Madam,

Attention is invited to Section 20 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 laying down the circumstances and conditions under which the Central Government may, by order, regulate or prohibit transmission/retransmission of any television channel or programme in public interest, and where it is considered necessary and expedient to issue such orders in the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of India, security of state, friendly relations of India with any foreign state, or public order or decency or morality.

2. It has come to the notice of this Ministry that a person in a foreign country against whom there are serious cases of crime including terrorism, belonging to an organization which has been proscribed by law in India was invited for a discussion on a television channel wherein the said person made several comments/remarks which were detrimental to the sovereignty/integrity of the country, security of India, friendly relations of India with a foreign state and also had the potential of disturbing public order in the country.


3. While the Government upholds media freedom and respects its rights under the Constitution, the content telecast by TV channels must adhere to the provisions of the CTN Act, 1995, including sub section (2) of Section 20.

4. In the light of the above, television channels are advised to refrain from giving any platform to reports/references about and views/agenda of persons of such background including those against whom there are charges of serious

*P. S. Rao*  
21/09/2023

crimes/terrorism and belonging to organizations which have been proscribed by law, having regard to the reasonable restrictions laid down under Article 19(2) of the Constitution and mentioned under sub-section (2) of Section 20 of the CTN Act.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority in the Ministry.

  
21/09/23

(Prateek Jain)

Deputy Director

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Copy to :

1. Self-Regulatory Bodies of TV channels registered under the Cable Television Networks (Amendment) Rules, 2021.
2. The Association /Bodies of Electronic Media.