

BROADCASTING CONTENT COMPLAINTS COUNCIL



03 April 2014

ALL MEMBER CHANNELS OF INDIAN BROADCASTING FOUNDATION (IBF):

Advisory on Portrayal of Persons with Disabilities in TV Programmes

The Broadcasting Content Complaints Council (BCCC) has received complaints regarding portrayal and depiction of persons with disabilities in TV programmes.

The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights & Full Participation) Act, 1995, lays down the law to safeguard the rights and facilities of persons with disabilities.

The Council has dwelt upon portrayals of persons with disabilities in TV programmes, which sometimes, leads to a caricature. The Council feels that adequate protection is necessary to avoid content which may be distasteful, harmful and offensive to persons with disabilities.

The Council believes that humour should not be created through any undesirable depiction of persons with disabilities and no derisive and disparaging reference should be made to their disability.

The Council advises all IBF member channels to exercise caution and be sensitive in the portrayal of persons with disabilities, to be conscious of their dignity, and to adopt a mature and responsible tone. At the same time, the Council also advises the channels to look at the inclusion and mainstreaming of persons with disabilities in TV programmes.

For & on behalf of Broadcasting Content Complaints Council

Justice (Retd.) Mukul Mudgal Chairperson