



Guidelines for Telecast of News during Emergency Situations

1. All telecast of news relating to armed conflict, internal disturbance, communal violence, public disorder, crime and other similar situations should be tested on the touchstone of "public interest".
2. The media has the responsibility to disseminate information which is factually accurate and objective.
3. No live reporting should be made that facilitates publicity of any terrorist or militant outfit or its ideology or tends to evoke sympathy for the perpetrators or glamorizes them or their cause or advances the illegal agenda or objectives of the perpetrators.
4. In live reporting of hostage situations or rescue operations, no details of identity, number and status of hostages should be telecast or information given of pending rescue operations or regarding the number of security personnel involved or the methods employed by them.
5. Media should avoid:
 - a. Live contact with the victims or security personnel or other technical personnel involved or the perpetrators during the course of the incident.
 - b. Unnecessary repeated or continuous broadcast of archival footage that may tend to re-agitate the mind of the viewers. Archival footage, if shown, should clearly indicate "file". The date and time be given when feasible.
6. The dead should be treated with dignity and their visuals should not be shown. Special care should be taken in the broadcast of any distressing visuals and graphics showing grief and emotional scenes of victims and relatives which could cause distress to children and families.

These are broad Guidelines and are not meant to be exhaustive.

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