

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.563
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.12.2023**

ALLEGATIONS OF CORRUPTION IN CBFC

**563: SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:
SHRI VAIKO:**

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

- (a) whether complaints have been received recently about the allegation of corruption in the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC);
- (b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted and the response of the Ministry in this regard;
- (c) whether any other instance of harassment by CBFC for film certification has come to light;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether, in view of the past experience, any measures have been taken to ensure transparency and fair play in the matter of film certification?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND
MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)**

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Certain allegations regarding corruption in the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) were recently made. Taking immediate cognizance of the matter, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting responded that the Government has zero tolerance for corruption and strictest action would be taken against anyone found involved. A senior officer from the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting was deputed to Mumbai and an inquiry was conducted. Moreover, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has also registered a case in the matter.

(c) & (d): An instance of corruption has been recently reported by the Central Bureau of Investigation on 29.11.2023 against the Regional Officer of CBFC, Bengaluru.

(e): Yes, Sir. The Ministry has taken steps to increase transparency and accountability in the CBFC, by reducing manual interface and bringing systemic improvements. The measures

include transparency in the prioritization of film screenings, online formation of Examining Committee, strict access control in all regional offices of CBFC, moving towards discontinuation of physical submission of documents for film certification, transparent grievance redressal system, etc.
