

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 732
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2025**

UNAUTHORISED CIRCULATION OF INDIAN FILMS

732: SHRI JAGGESH

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

- a) whether it is a fact that the number of piracy cases involving pre-release content has increased in recent times;
- b) whether Government has taken steps to enhance surveillance and monitoring of websites and social media channels promoting pirated content;
- c) whether international piracy networks are contributing to the unauthorized circulation of Indian films on the dark web or torrent platforms; and
- d) if so, the details thereof, and the steps taken by Government to safeguard the Indian entertainment sector from piracy, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(DR. L. MURUGAN)**

(a) to (d): Government remains conscious of the adverse impact of digital piracy on creative economy. To address this important issue, the Government has brought in following reforms:

- In 2023, the Government amended the Cinematograph Act, 1952 to include measures against digital piracy.
- The amendments include strict punishment of minimum 3 months imprisonment and fine of Rs. 3 lakh, which can be extended up to 3 years imprisonment and fine up to 5% of the audited gross production cost
- Section 6AA and 6AB of Cinematograph Act prohibit unauthorized recording and transmission of films.
- Newly added Section 7(1B)(ii) of the Cinematograph act empowers the Government to issue necessary directions to intermediaries for hosting pirated content.
- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and the Central Board of Film Certification have been empowered to receive complaints from copyright holders or authorized persons, and issue necessary directions to intermediaries for hosting such content.
- An inter-ministerial committee has been constituted to strengthen anti-piracy strategies and develop coordinated action plans.
- During the World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES 2025), a competition was held to develop technical solutions to combat digital piracy.

The government remains engaged with relevant stakeholders, including law enforcement agencies, to curb the menace of digital piracy.