

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1535
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2025

ALTERATION OF FILM CONTENT BY CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CERTIFICATION (CBFC)

1535 DR. JOHN BRITTAS

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

- a) whether it is a fact that the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) has altered over 720 hours of film content between 2017 and 2025, including deletions and dialogue replacements;
- b) if so, the details thereof;
- c) the number of films in which the CBFC has mandated cuts or modifications in the last five years, the grounds thereof;
- d) whether Government is aware that the Kerala High Court recently quashed several of CBFC's censorship cuts on the film 'Haal' for overreach; and
- e) steps taken by Government to ensure that certification does not become a tool to obstruct creative freedom?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC), a statutory body under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, certifies films for public exhibition under the Cinematograph Act 1952, Cinematograph Certification Rules 2024 and related guidelines.

Cuts or modifications are recommended only if the content violates statutory parameters concerning sovereignty and integrity of India, security, public order, decency, morality, defamation, contempt of court or incitement to offence.

Over the last five years (2020–21 to 2024–25), CBFC has certified 71,963 films.

The Cinematograph Act provides for an appeal against the order of the Board before the High Court. Such cases are dealt with in accordance with the outcome of the judicial proceedings.

The Government and Board remain committed to protecting creative freedom, while also discharging its obligations under the Cinematograph Act.
