GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 748 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2025

DISCREPANCY IN FUNCTIONING OF CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CERTIFICATION

748: SMT. SAGARIKA GHOSE

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

- (a) whether annual reports of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) have been published regularly since 2017, if not, reasons therefor;
- (b) whether recommended target of at least 50 per cent representation of women members has been achieved, if not, reasons therefor;
- (c) duration of service of present Board members and, in cases where tenure has been extended beyond the prescribed period, the reasons therefor;
- (d) number of meetings conducted by CBFC since 2017, and if the meetings have been infrequent, reasons therefor; and
- (e) reasons for denial of public access to and removal of QR codes linked to film certification from the e-Cinepramaan portal?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) The CBFC submits its annual report to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting every year. This information is incorporated into the Ministry's consolidated Annual Report, which is published regularly and made available on the Ministry's website.

Due representation of women is ensured in accordance with the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024, which mandates one-third women members on the Board and Advisory Panels. Further, CBFC ensures 50% representation of women in every Examining Committee and Revising Committee constituted for the examination of films, as provided under the Rules.

The tenure of Board members is governed by the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and the rules made thereunder. Under Rule 3 of the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024, every member shall hold office during the pleasure of the Central Government for a period not exceeding three years, provided that the term of the members shall continue until new members are appointed in their place.

CBFC conducts its meetings with Board Members online. Since 2017, the certification workflow has been made predominantly digital through the e-Cinepramaan online certification platform, through which submission of applications, processing, and approvals is done online. The meetings of Examining and Revising Committees are held as required based on the volume of films submitted, ensuring timely certification.

The QR code system enables the public to access basic certification-related information such as film title, language, duration, applicant name, producer name, synopsis, and cast/crew details. Few modifications have been made in the content accessible under the QR code on the e-Cinepramaan portal to ensure data security, system integrity, and compliance with privacy considerations. These changes do not affect public access to essential certification information.
