GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 200 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.03.2018

SEX AND VIOLENCE IN FILMS

*200: SHRI GOPAL SHETTY

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken or proposes to take any necessary corrective measures to check the negative impact of rising depiction of sex and violence in films on the male and female youth in the country;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *200 FOR ANSWER ON 08.03.2018

(a) to (c): The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) certifies films in accordance with the Cinematograph Act, 1952, the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983 and the guidelines issued thereunder.

The Principles for guidance in certifying films as per Section 5B of the Act lay down that a film shall not be certified for public exhibition if, in the opinion of the authority competent to grant the certificate, the film or any part of it is against, interalia, public order, decency or morality. The guidelines framed under Section 5B (2) of the Cinematograph Act in 1991 already lays down the following provisions for certification of films by CBFC to check the negative impact of depiction of sex and violence in films:-

- pointless or avoidable scenes of violence, cruelty and horror, scenes of violence primarily intended to provide entertainment and such scenes as may have the effect of desensitizing or dehumanising people are not shown;
- human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity or depravity;
- such dual meaning words that obviously cater to baser instincts are not allowed;
- scenes degrading or denigrating women in any manner are not presented;
- scenes involving sexual violence against women like attempt to rape, rape or any form of molestation or scenes showing sexual perversions or scenes of a similar nature are avoided, and if any such incident is germane to the theme, they shall be reduced to the minimum and no details are shown;
- scenes showing sexual perversions shall be avoided and if such matters are germane to the theme, they shall be reduced to the minimum and no details are shown.

CBFC also conducts workshops for the benefit of the Advisory Panel members and Examining officers which sensitizes them to the guiding principles for certification of films.