

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 985
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2022**

AMENDMENT TO CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1952

985: SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of numerous feature films depicting detailed scenes that glorify and normalize the usage of Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA) especially in Malayalam movies and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is intending to make mandatory requirements of statutory warnings in such scenes to educate the audience of the consequences of narcotic drugs;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government would further amend provisions of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 to ensure compliance; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a): The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) performs the statutory function of certifying films for public exhibition in India in accordance with the Cinematograph Act, 1952, the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983 and Guidelines for certification of films notified by the Government.

Under Guideline 2(vi), the CBFC shall ensure that “*scenes tending to encourage, justify or glamorise drug addiction are not shown*”. While

certifying films, including Malayalam films, having scenes depicting drug usage, it is ensured that the aforesaid guideline is strictly adhered to. Also, during examination of a film, CBFC ensures that no instances of promotion of drugs of any sort, including MDMA, are there. If certain scenes are found to be violating these Guidelines, they are directed to be removed or modified accordingly under Section 4(1)(iii) of the Cinematograph Act, 1952. However, if such scenes are germane to the narrative of the film, they are recommended to be modified suitably or reduced to a minimum, without being shown in detail.

(b) & (c): No such proposal is under consideration by the Ministry.

(d) & (e): Does not arise.
