

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1433
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.12.2021**

PREVENT LINGUISTIC DISCRIMINATION IN FILMS

1433: SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Odia film “Khyanikaa - The Lost Idea” was pulled down from Over The Top (OTT) platform without any formal communication;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to prevent linguistic discrimination especially Odia films which is a classical language; and
- (d) 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) & (b): The Government has not issued any direction for pulling down of the Odia film “Khyanikaa - The Lost Idea” from any medium.

(c) & (d): The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) certifies films for public exhibition in India in accordance with the Cinematograph Act 1952, the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983 and the Guidelines for film certification issued thereunder and ensures that there is no linguistic discrimination while evaluating a film.

CBFC is also having a separate regional office in Cuttack, Odisha that caters to certification of Odia Films.

The film “Khyanikaa - The Lost Idea” was certified by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) on 29.12.2017 under UA (Universal Public Exhibition with Parental Supervision for children below 12 years) category for public exhibition in India.

The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting organizes the National Film Awards every year wherein films from across the country in Hindi/Regional Languages are awarded under different categories.

Also, films are selected from various Indian languages for exhibition in the Indian Panorama section of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), Goa conducted every year. The Odia feature film “Khyanikaa” was selected for screening in the Indian Panorama section of the 48th International Film Festival of India, 2017 organized in Goa.
