GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 353 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2024

PIRATED CONTENT ON DIGITAL PLATFORMS

353: SMT. KAMALJEET SEHRAWAT: SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM: SHRI RAVINDRA SHUKLA ALIAS RAVI KISHAN:

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

- a) whether the Government has taken any steps to take down the pirated content on digital platforms and set up any mechanism to deal with the issue; and
- b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) & (b): The Cinematograph Act, 1952 has been amended in 2023 to include the provisions for addressing the issues of unauthorized recording and exhibition of films to curb the menace of film piracy by transmission of unauthorized copies on the internet. The newly inserted Section 6AA inter-alia prohibits unauthorized recording of films with the intention of transmission of infringing copies of films. Further, Section 6AB prohibits public exhibition of an infringing copy of any film for profit in a manner that amounts to the infringement of copyright under the provisions of the Copyright Act, 1957 or any other law for the time being in force. Also, Section 7(1B)(ii) empowers the Government under section 79(3) of the Information Technology Act, 2000 for taking action against intermediaries hosting pirated content.

Under these provisions, an institutional mechanism has been established in the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting and the Central Board of Film Certification for receiving complaints from the original copyright holders of cinematograph films or by persons authorized by them and/or any other person, regarding exhibition of pirated/infringing copies of films on the internet, and issuing notification to the intermediaries for disabling access to such links.
