

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2976
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2025

OTT CONTENT UNDER CBFC

2976: DR. M K VISHNU PRASAD

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

- a) whether the Government is considering bringing Over The Top (OTT) content under the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) system and if so, the details thereof;
- b) if not, the alternative mechanisms proposed to ensure content discipline;
- c) the number of complaints received by the Government against OTT content during the last three years; and
- d) the action taken by the Government on such complaints?

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

(a) to (d): Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) is a statutory authority established under the Cinematograph Act, 1952 for examining and certifying cinematographic films for public exhibition.

OTT content is regulated under the provisions of Part III of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.

The Code of Ethics requires OTT platforms to avoid publishing content prohibited by law and undertake age-based classification of content as per the guidelines in the Rules.

These Rules also outline a three-tier institutional mechanism for ensuring adherence to content-related norms and for addressing public grievances.

Level I: Self-regulation by the publishers

Level II: Self-regulation by the self-regulating bodies of the publishers

Level III: Oversight mechanism by the Central Government

The grievances related to OTT content are duly forwarded to the concerned OTT platforms for appropriate action under the Level-I of the redressal mechanism viz. self-regulation by the publishers, provided under the IT Rules, 2021.
