

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 781
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2026

DELAY IN FILM CERTIFICATION BY THE CBFC

781: SMT. PRIYANKA GANDHI VADRA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints regarding the inordinate delay in film certification by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) and if so, the details thereof including any action taken in this regard;
- (b) the number of film certification decisions challenged before Revising Committees and High Courts since the abolition of the Film Certification Appellate Tribunal (FCAT) in 2021, year-wise;
- (c) the average time taken for disposal of such appeals and the number of films whose release was delayed as a result, year-wise since 2021;
- (d) the details of instances since 2021 in which the CBFC has re-examined certified films; and
- (e) the details of measures taken to strengthen the grievance redressal mechanism for applicants?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) functions in accordance with the Cinematograph Act, 1952, and the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024. Under Rule 37

of the said Rules, the prescribed time limit for certification of films is 48 working days. With the implementation of the Online Certification System, the present average time taken for certification is 18 working days for feature films and 3 working days for short films.

The year-wise details of films certified for theatre release by CBFC, decisions challenged before the Revising Committees (RC) and various High Courts (HC) since the abolition of the Film Certification Appellate Tribunal (FCAT) in 2021 are given below:

Year	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 till date
Total films certified	2031	2777	2837	2687	2248
Challenged before RC	25	46	49	38	55
Challenged before HC	2	4	1	4	10

The time taken for disposal of films in the Revising Committee is within the timeframe prescribed under Rule 37(7) of the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024.

The extant norms under the Cinematograph Act, 1952, and the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024, provide for a multi-level grievance redressal mechanism, allowing applicants to appeal to a Revising Committee.
