

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:483
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2000
PORTRAYAL OF INDIAN WOMEN IN FILMS
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

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

- (a): whether the Government have issued certain guidelines to the Central Board of Film Certification (Censor Board) to check the wrongful portrayal of women in films;
- (b): if so, the details thereof;
- (c): if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d): the other steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 483 FOR ANSWER ON 22.12.2000

(a) & (b): The guidelines for certification of films, issued under Section 5B(2) of the Cinematograph Act, 1952, discourage presentation of scenes degrading or denigrating women in any manner and scenes involving sexual violence against women like attempt to rape or molestation in films.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): Some of the steps taken to ensure strict compliance of the guidelines for certification are as under:

(i) Provision of 50% of the members of the Examining and Revising Committees to be women to bring greater gender awareness into the certification process;

(ii) Issue of specific clarifications by the Central Board of Film Certification about interpretation of the frequently violated guidelines to ensure proper application of the guidelines; and

(iii) Showing of names of members of the Examining/Revising Committee and Film Certification Appellate Tribunal, on whose recommendations the film is cleared for public exhibition, on the certificates granted to the film, with a view to introducing greater accountability.