

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:144
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2004
CHEAP AND OBJECTIONABLE FILMS
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a number of cheap and objectionable films are being certified for being shown in cinema houses, particularly film 'Girlfriend';
- (b) whether granting of permission to release such films implies nexus between producers and Censor Board;
- (c) if so, whether the Government propose to conduct any enquiry in this regard; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to tone up the functioning of the Censor Board to ensure that objectionable scenes in films are deleted ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a),(b),(c) and (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 144 FOR 15.07.2004

REGARDING CHEAP AND OBJECTIONABLE FILMS

(a),(b),(c) and (d): Films are certified by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) as per the guidelines issued under the Cinematograph Act, 1952. The certification guidelines inter-alia stipulate the following :

- ? Human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity, or depravity ;
- ? Such dual meaning words as obviously cater to baser instincts are not allowed;
- ? scenes degrading or denigrating women in any manner are not presented;
- ? scenes showing sexual perversions shall be avoided and if such matters are germane to the theme, they shall be reduced to the minimum and no details are shown;

The films are certified after they are previewed by an Examining Committee comprising an Examining Officer and four members of the advisory panel out of whom two members are women. It has further been provided that films that meet the criteria laid down in the guidelines but are considered unsuitable for exhibition to non-adults shall be certified for exhibition to adult audience only.

CBFC has informed that the Examining Committee of the Board comprising two lady members, which previewed the recently released Hindi film 'GIRLFRIEND', unanimously recommended grant of a 'A' certificate to the film and based on the EC's recommendation, an 'A' certificate was issued to the film after deleting explicit scenes of sex.