

**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
PUBLIC NOTICE**

Dated: 09.02.2024

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting invites comments/suggestions on the Draft Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024 proposed to be notified to carry out the provisions of the Cinematograph (Amendment) Act, 2023 notified on 04.08.2023.

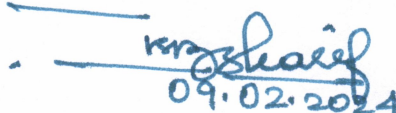
After passage by both the Houses of Parliament and subsequent assent of the President, the Cinematograph (Amendment) Act, 2023 has been notified on 4th August, 2023.

2. In view of the recent amendment of the Cinematograph Act, abolition of the Film Certification Appellate Tribunal (FCAT), implementation of online certification system by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) and other consequent changes, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting proposes to supersede the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983 with the Draft Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024 (**copy enclosed**).

3. Suggestions/feedback are invited from the stakeholders and public on the enclosed Draft Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024. Comments/suggestions may be submitted latest by **1st March, 2024** at the following email addresses: **armstrong.pame@nic.in** or **fc.inb@nic.in**.

4. In exceptional cases, submissions by post may be sent to:

Director (Films)
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
Room No. 655, 6th Floor 'A' Wing, Shastri Bhawan,
Dr Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi- 110001


09.02.2024

(Md Zahid Sharif)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi-110001

Draft Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024

G.S.R...- In exercise of the powers conferred by section 8 of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 (37 of 1952), and in supersession of the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983, the Central Government hereby makes the following rules, namely :—

1. Short title and commencement.-

- (1) These rules shall be called the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024.
- (2) They shall come into force from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. Definitions.- In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires-

- (i) “Act” means the Cinematograph Act, 1952 (37 of 1952);
- (ii) “advisory panel” means the advisory panel of the Board constituted under rule 7;
- (iii) “applicant” means a person applying for certification of a film for public exhibition under section 4;
- (iv) “Assistant Regional Officer” means an assistant regional officer appointed under rule 9 and includes the Secretary to Chairperson;
- (v) “Board” means the Board of Film Certification constituted under section 3;
- (vi) “Chairperson” means the Chairperson of the Board;
- (vii) “Chief Executive Officer” means a Chief Executive Officer appointed under rule 9;
- (viii) “Examining Officer” means a Chief Executive Officer or a Regional Officer or an Additional Regional Officer or an Assistant Regional Officer or such other officer appointed by the Central Government for the purpose of examination of films;
- (ix) “feature film” means fictionalized story long film;
- (x) “foreign films” means films produced outside India;
- (xi) “long film” is a film running 72 minutes or more, including the credit and title time of the film;
- (xii) “member” means a member of the Board and includes the Chairperson;
- (xiii) “Regional Officer” means a Regional Officer appointed under rule 9 and includes a Chief Executive Officer, an Additional Regional Officer and an Assistant Regional Officer or such other officer appointed under that rule;
- (xiv) “section” means a section of the Act;
- (xv) “short film” means a film running less than 72 minutes;
- (xvi) “UA certificate” means a ‘UA’ certificate with the appropriate ‘UA marker’ as defined under clause (i) of section 2 of the Act; and
- (xvii) “UA marker” means age-based sub-categories of the ‘UA’ certificate, namely, “UA 7+” or “UA 13+” or “UA 16+”.

3. Terms of office-

- (1) A member of the Board shall hold office during the pleasure of the Central Government.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of sub-rule (1), the Chairperson shall hold office for a period of three years and shall continue to hold office until their successor is appointed;
 Provided that pending the appointment of their successor, the Central Government may appoint another person to act as Chairperson in the interim for a period not exceeding one year.
- (3) Subject to the provisions of sub-rule (1), every other member shall hold office for a period not exceeding three years,
 Provided that the term of the members shall continue until a new member is appointed in their place:

Provided further that the term of the members shall be discontinued in the sequence of their appointment.

- (4) A retiring member or a member whose term of office has expired by efflux of time shall be eligible for reappointment.

3A. Representation of women in the board.-

The Central Government may take such steps as it thinks fit to appoint women members in the Board so that there is due representation for women, where for one-third of the members in the Board shall be women and preferably half shall be women.

4. Casual vacancy.-

A casual vacancy in the Board by resignation, death or removal of a member or otherwise shall be filled by the appointment of another member who shall hold office for the full term of membership provided under sub-rule (3) of rule 3.

5. Headquarters.-

Unless otherwise directed by the Central Government, the headquarters of the Board shall be at Mumbai.

6. Temporary absence of Chairperson.-

Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules, when the Chairperson is unable to discharge their functions owing to absence, illness or any other cause, the Central Government may nominate a member of the Board who will discharge the functions of the Chairperson until the Chairperson resumes their duties.

7. Constitution of advisory panels.-

- (1) The Central Government shall constitute an advisory panel at each of the regional offices of the Board.
- (2) An advisory panel constituted under sub-rule (1) shall consist of such number of members as the Central Government may, after consultation with the Board, determine.
- (3) The Central Government may, after consultation with the Board, appoint any person whom it thinks fit to be a member of an advisory panel;

Provided that the Central Government may dispense with such consultation in respect of such number of members not exceeding one-third of the total number of members of the advisory panel, as that Government thinks fit,

Provided further that for at least one-third of the members of the advisory panel shall be women and preferably half shall be women.

8. Terms of office of members of advisory panels.-

- (1) A member of an advisory panel shall hold office during the pleasure of the Central Government.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of sub-rule (1), every such member shall hold office for a period not exceeding three years;
- (3) A retiring member or a member whose term of office has expired by efflux of time shall be eligible for re-appointment,
- (4) The Central Government may remove from office any member of an advisory panel before the expiration of their term of office.

9. Officers of the Board.-

- (1) For the purpose of enabling the Board to perform its functions under the Act, the Central Government may appoint a Chief Executive Officer, Regional Officers, Additional Regional Officers, Assistant Regional Officers and such other officers at the headquarters and at each of the regional offices of the Board:

Provided that the Central Government may delegate to the Chairperson/Chief Executive Officer subject to such conditions and limitations, if any, as may be specified by it, the power of appointment conferred on it under this sub-rule, other than the powers of appointment in relation to the posts of Regional Officer and Additional Regional Officer.

Provided further that the Chairperson or Chief Executive Officer may grant leave to or suspend or remove from service any officer appointed by him under the powers delegated to him under this sub-rule.

- (2) The Regional Officers, Additional Regional Officers, Assistant Regional Officers and other officers appointed under sub-rule (1) shall perform such duties as may be assigned to them under these rules, or by the Chairperson or Chief Executive Officer or by the Board.

10. Duties of the Board.-

The Board shall, in addition to other duties prescribed under these rules,-

- (1) submit an annual report to the Central Government reviewing the work done by the Board during the preceding financial year and the report shall contain a detailed analytical study of the trends in film industry;
- (2) prescribe the manner in which the registers, records and accounts of the Board shall be kept; and
- (3) review the work of the Regional Officers and members of the Advisory Panels.

11. Assessment of public reactions to films.-

With a view to determining the principles to be observed in certifying films, the Board may take such steps as it thinks fit to assess public reactions to films, and for that purpose, the Board may hold symposia or seminars of film critics, film writers, community leaders and persons engaged in the film industry, or such other persons and also undertake local or national surveys to study the impact of various kinds of films on the public mind.

12. Terms and conditions of service (other than salary and allowances) of the Chairperson of the Board and allowances payable to the other members of the Board.-

- (1) The Chairperson, if they are a paid full-time officer, shall be entitled to draw travelling and daily allowances as admissible under the Fundamental and Supplementary Rules, 1922 and shall be entitled to leave and leave salary and such other benefits and shall be governed by such conditions of service as are applicable to Central Government Officers engaged on contract:

Provided that in the case of an officer of an All India or Central Civil or General Central Service or State Service being appointed as Chairperson he or she shall be entitled to leave and leave salary and other benefits admissible to officers of such service so long as they continue to belong to that Service:

Provided further that if an officer who has already been holding a post under Government on contract with the benefits of Contributory Provident Fund is appointed as Chairperson, shall be allowed to carry forward the unutilised portion of leave earned by them during previous service and they shall also continue to be eligible for the Contributory Provident Fund benefits.

- (2) Every honorary member (including the Chairperson where they do not receive any salary) may,-
- (a) be paid an allowance for attending the preview of a film or meeting of the Revising Committee or the Board at the rate as notified from time to time by the Central Government for each day of such preview or meeting;
 - (b) if they are an out-station member, travel by air or by train as admissible according to the orders issued by the Central Government from time to time in respect of journeys undertaken by them for the performance of their duties as such members;

13. Allowances payable to members of the advisory panels.-

- (1) Every member of the advisory panel shall be entitled to draw travelling and daily allowances for journeys performed by them for attending the meetings of the Board outside the headquarters or for the purpose of discharging any other duties prescribed under the Act with prior approval of the Chairperson on the scale provided under the Fundamental and Supplementary Rules, 1922 applicable to First Grade officers of Central Government.
- (2) Every member of the advisory panel shall be entitled to receive a consultancy fee for attending a preview of film or a meeting of the Committee or Panel or for verification of cuts and affected contents at the rate as notified from time to time by the Central Government, provided that payment of daily allowance in terms of sub-rule (1) above will not be admissible in addition to the payment of consultancy fees under this sub-rule.
- (3) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-rules (1) and (2), if any member of the advisory panel is a Member of Parliament, they shall not be entitled to any remuneration other than the allowances defined in clause (a) of section 2 of the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959 (10 of 1959).

14. Meetings of the Board.-

- (1) The Board shall ordinarily meet once a quarter for the transaction of business but the Chairperson may at any time call an extraordinary meeting if they consider it necessary to do so.
- (2) Meetings of the Board shall be held at such places as the Chairperson may at their discretion fix for the purpose.

15. Co-opted Members.-

The Chairperson may co-opt the Chief Executive Officer or any one or more of the regional officers or any officer of the Central Government as a member or members of the Board for the purpose of attending a particular meeting of the Board and such officer or officers shall then be entitled to participate in the deliberations of the Board at that meeting but shall not be entitled to vote.

16. Notice of meeting.-

- (1) At least twenty-one clear days' notice of all meetings of the Board shall be given to each member.
- (1A) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-rule (1), an urgent meeting may be called by the Chairperson at three clear days' notice.
- (2) The notice shall state the business to be transacted at the meetings and no business other than that stated shall be transacted at such meeting except with the consent of the Chairperson or on his motion.

17. Business ordinarily to be transacted at meetings.-

The business of the Board shall ordinarily be transacted at a meeting duly called in accordance with the provisions of these rules:

Provided that the Chairperson may, if they think fit, circulate any urgent matter among the members for their opinion.

18. Quorum.-

At every meeting of the Board, quorum shall be considered to be constituted if there are:

- (a) four members if the Chairperson is present; or
- (b) six members if the Chairperson is absent.

19. President of the meeting.-

Meetings of the Board shall be presided over by the Chairperson, or in his absence, by a member elected by the members present from among themselves.

20. Question to be decided by majority of votes.-

Every question before the Board shall be decided by a majority of votes, and in the case of equality of votes, the Chairperson or the member elected to preside under rule 19, as the case may be, shall have a second or casting vote.

21. Application for examination of films.-

- (1) Every application to certify a film for public exhibition shall be made on the online portal of the Board, hereinafter referred to as the e-cinepramaan portal in accordance with the format of the Common Application Form as prescribed by the Board.
- (2) Any application to re-certify or change the category of a film that has received final certification from the Board, to be exhibited on television or such other media other than the medium originally certified, shall be made on the e-cinepramaan portal in accordance with the Common Application Form.
- (3) The application referred to in sub-rule (1) above shall be made through the Regional Officer concerned as per the First Schedule:

Provided that in case of foreign films, the Chairperson may direct or permit applications in respect of them to be made or transferred to a Regional Officer other than the Regional Officer to whom such applications would have been made but for this proviso:

Provided further that the Chairperson may in the following circumstances, direct or permit applications in respect of any films or class of films to be made or transferred to a Regional Officer other than the Regional Officer to whom such applications would have been made but for this proviso, namely,-

- (i) where the Chairperson is satisfied that immediate action for examination of a film is necessary, or
 - (ii) where examination of a film with the assistance of persons well acquainted with the language of the film is not possible at the place where but for the provisions of this proviso, it would have been made for examination, or
 - (iii) for such other reasons as may be specified by the Chairperson in writing.
- (4) Every such application under sub-rules (1) or (2) shall be accompanied by online submission of following on the e-cinepramaan portal,-
 - (a) the payment of fee prescribed under rule 36;
 - (b) the synopsis of the film, together with full credit titles;
 - (c) the complete script, including the full text of the songs, if any;

- (d) the same language subtitles, same language audio description, or same language closed captions, if any, and any other accessibility features as may be notified, from time to time, by the Central Government;
- (e) a statement showing the duration of the film; and
- (f) the documents submitted under clauses (c), (d) and (e) shall be accompanied by the Time Counter Reading:

Provided that where the film is in a language other than English or any Indian language listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India, the applicant shall furnish the translation in English or Hindi of the synopsis, the complete script and the full text of the songs, if any:

Provided further that in the case of a film referred to in the preceding proviso, the Regional Officer may direct the applicant to also furnish the translation in English or Hindi of the full text of the dialogue, speeches or commentary in the film;

- (g) a declaration made in writing by the producer of the film declaring that no cruelty was caused to the animals used during shooting of the films produced in India under any other law, for the time being in force.

Explanation: For the purpose of this clause:

- (i) “animal” shall have the meaning assigned to it under clause (a) of section 2 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 (59 of 1960);
 - (ii) “cruelty” means treating the animals in any manner specified in clauses (a) to (o) of sub-section (I) of Section 11 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 (59 of 1960);
- (h) if the applications made for the purpose of a fresh certificate under sub-rule (2) of rule 29, the copy of original certificate or duplicate certificate; and
 - (i) if the application is made by a person other than the producer or copyright holder of the film an authorisation in writing on a stamped paper of appropriate value to be notified by the Chairperson from the producer or copyright holder of the film.
- (5) If, in the case of a short film, the Regional Officer is satisfied that the applicant is not able to furnish the documents specified in sub-rule (4) along with the application for reasons beyond his control, the Regional Officer may direct that such documents may be furnished within such period after the examination of the film as they may specify or that the submission of such documents may be dispensed with
 - (6) No such application shall be accompanied by any documents other than those mentioned in sub-rule (4).

22. Examining Committee.-

- (1) On receipt of an application under Rule 21, the Regional Officer shall appoint an Examining Committee to examine the film and the examination shall be made at the cost of the applicant on such date, at such place and at such time as the Regional Officer may determine.
- (2) The Examining Committee shall consist of:-
 - (a) in the case of a short film, a member of the advisory panel and an examining officer either of whom shall be a woman; and
 - (b) in the case of a long film, four members of the advisory panel and an examining officer of whom two persons shall be women:

Provided that if the examining officer is unavoidably absent at the examination of a film, the Examining Committee shall consist of two members of the advisory panel in a case falling under clause (a) and five members of the advisory panel in a case falling under clause (b):

Provided further that in the Examining Committee, in a case falling under clause (a) one member shall be a woman and in a case falling under clause (b) two members shall be women.

(2A) The Regional Officer may invite such subject or language experts in the field of film as it may consider appropriate, for the examination of a film by the Examining Committee;

Provided that the expert invitees who attend the meetings of the Examining Committee shall be paid such fees and allowances as may be prescribed by the Central Government,

Provided further that where such an expert has not been invited for the initial screening, if the Examining Committee decides that the film is required to be seen by such expert, the screening may be done again by the Board, without any cost to the applicant.

(3) The film to be examined by the Examining Committee shall be:

(a) in its final form with the background music and all sound effects duly recorded on the film itself, and

(b) the title, castings and credits shall be displayed in the language of the dialogue of the film, and the same may be displayed in any other language if so desired by the applicant.

(4) All previews of films for the purpose of examination for certification and the reports and records relating thereto shall be treated as confidential.

(5) The names of the members of the Examining Committee examining the film shall not be disclosed to any official or nonofficial not concerned with the preview of the particular film or to any other person including the applicant.

(5A) Nothing in sub-rules (4) and (5) shall affect the disclosure of names of persons in the certificate granted by the Board.

(6) The applicant shall not be allowed to be present inside the preview theatre.

(7) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-rules (4), (5) and (6) the Chairperson may by special or general order permit any member of the staff to be present at the preview to render such assistance as may be required.

(8) The Examining Committee shall examine the film having regard to the principles for guidance in certifying films specified in section 5B(1) and the guidelines issued by the Government under section 5B(2).

(9) Immediately after the examination of the film each member of the Examining Committee attending the examination shall before leaving the preview theatre record their opinion in writing in Form VIII set out in the Second Schedule spelling out in clear terms the reasons therefore and state whether they consider-

(a) that the film is suitable for unrestricted public exhibition. i.e. fit for 'U' certificate; or

(b) that the film is suitable for unrestricted public exhibition with an endorsement of caution as to whether a child below the age of seven, thirteen or sixteen may be allowed to see the film should be considered by the parents or guardian of such child with respect to the appropriate 'UA marker', i.e. fit for 'UA with UA Marker' certificate; or

(c) that the film is suitable for public exhibition restricted to adults, i.e. fit for 'A' certificate; or

(d) that the film is suitable for public exhibition restricted to members of any profession or any class of persons having regard to the nature, content and theme of the film, i.e. fit for 'S' certificate; or

- (e) that the film is suitable for 'U' or 'UA with UA Marker' or 'A' or 'S' certificate as the case may be if a specified portion or portions be excised or modified there from;
or
- (f) that the film is not suitable for unrestricted or restricted public exhibition, i.e. that the film be refused a certificate;
and if the Chairperson is away from the regional centre where the film is examined, the form aforesaid shall be prepared in duplicate.
- (10) The Examining Officer shall furnish the examination form to all the concerned Examining Committee members for recording their recommendations.
- (11) After the screening of the film, the examining officer shall see that-
- (a) the recommendation of every member of the Committee is recorded in unambiguous terms and each excision or modification is properly specified in clear terms with reason or reasons therefor;
 - (b) the same is duly signed by the members of the Committees and
 - (c) where the report of any member of the Committee is incomplete, that fact is brought to the notice of the member concerned before they leave the preview theatre.
- (12) The examining officer shall within three working days, submit the recommendations of all members of the Examining Committee to be considered by the authority prescribed in Third Schedule based on the type and length of the content.
- (13) It shall be the personal responsibility of the examining officer to examine whether each and every guideline issued by Government has been followed and to bring any lapse or deviation to notice of the Chairperson.
- (14) The quorum for the Examining Committee for a long film shall be four of whom at least two persons shall be women.

23. Certification:-

On receipt of the record referred to in sub-rule (12) of rule 22, the authority having jurisdiction in the matter as given in Third Schedule shall take further action on behalf of the Board in conformity with the recommendation of the Examining Committee either unanimous or by majority, unless the provisions of sub-rule (1) of rule 24 are not attracted:

Provided that in case of a short film when the Committee is divided in its opinion, the Chairperson shall either examine the film himself and take, or direct the Regional Officer concerned to take further action on behalf of the Board to give effect to his decision.

24. Revising Committee:-

- (1) On receipt of the record referred to in Rule 22, the Chairperson may on his own motion or on the request of the applicant upon a representation made under sub-section (2) of section 4, refer it to a Revising Committee constituted for the purpose.
- (2) The Revising Committee shall, subject to sub-rule (5), consist of a Chairperson and not more than nine members, being members of the Board or members of any of the advisory panels, to be specified by the Chairperson.

Provided that subject to the provisions of sub-rule (11), the Chairperson shall give due representation to women in the Committee by nominating such number of women members as he thinks fit.

- (2A) The Regional Officer may invite such subject/language experts in the field of film as it may consider appropriate, for the examination of a film by the Revising Committee;

Provided that the expert invitees who attend the meetings of the Revising Committee shall be paid such allowances as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

- (3) The Chairperson or in his absence a member of the Board nominated by the Chairperson shall preside at every meeting of the Revising Committee.
- (4) The Regional Officer of the center where the application was received under rule 21, may be invited to attend any meeting of the Revising Committee and participate in proceedings thereof but he shall have no right to vote thereat.
- (5) No member of the advisory panel who has been a member of the Examining Committee for any film shall be a member of the Revising Committee in respect of the same film.
- (6) The provisions of sub-rule (4) to (8) of Rule 22 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the examination of film by the Revising Committee or the Board.
- (7) The Revising Committee shall examine the film at the expense of the applicant, on such date, at such place and at such time, as the Chairperson may determine.
- (8) For the purpose of examination by a Revising Committee, the applicant shall present the same version of the film which was shown to the Examining Committee and he shall make no change whatsoever in it and he shall furnish the necessary declaration in writing in that behalf;
- (9) Immediately after examination of the film, each member of the Revising Committee shall before leaving the preview theatre record his recommendations in writing in Form VIII set out in the Second Schedule spelling out in clear terms the reasons thereof and stating they consider-
 - (a) that the film is suitable for unrestricted public exhibition, i.e. fit for 'U' certificate; or
 - (b) that the film is suitable for unrestricted public exhibition but with an endorsement of caution as to whether a child below the age of seven, thirteen or sixteen may be allowed to see the film should be considered by the parents or guardian of such child with respect to the appropriate 'UA marker' i.e. fit for 'UA with UA marker' certificate; or
 - (c) that the film is suitable for public exhibition restricted to adults, i.e. fit for 'A' certificate; or
 - (d) that the film is suitable for public exhibition restricted to members of any profession or any class of persons having regard to the nature, content and theme of the film, i.e. fit for 'S' certificate; or
 - (e) that the film is suitable for grant of 'U' or 'UA with UA marker' or 'A' or "S" certificate, as the case may be, if a specified portion or portions be excised or modified therefrom; or
 - (f) that the film is not suitable for unrestricted or restricted public exhibition, i.e. that the film be refused a certificate.
- (10) The Presiding Officer of the Revising Committee shall, within three days, send the recommendations of all the members of the Revising Committee to the Chairperson.
- (11) The quorum of the Revising Committee shall be five members of whom at least two persons shall be women;

Provided that the number of women members shall not be less than one-half of the total members of a Committee constituted under sub-rule (2).
- (12) The decision of a Revising Committee shall be that of the majority of the members attending the examination of the film and, in the event of an equality of votes, the Presiding Officer shall have a second or casting vote:

Provided that where the Chairperson disagrees with the decision of the majority of the Committee the Board shall itself examine the film or cause the film to be examined

again by another Revising Committee and that the decision of the Board or the second Revising Committee, as the case may be, shall be final.

25. On receipt of the orders of the Board under section 4 or section 5A, the Regional Officer shall communicate the same to the applicant through the e-cinepramaan portal and take such other steps in accordance with the said orders as they may deem necessary.

26. Issue of certificate subject to removal of portions of film:-

(1) Where the applicant is informed by a Regional Officer that a film will not be granted 'U' or 'UA with UA Marker' or 'A' or 'S' certificate, as the case may be unless a specified portion or portions thereof be removed from the film, the Regional Officer may issue such a certificate if he is satisfied on a declaration made in writing (in Form IX set out in the Second Schedule) by the applicant that the portion or portions objected to have been excised from film and from all copies thereof, wherever they may exist.

Explanation:- For the purpose of being satisfied that the portion or portions objected to have been excised from the film and from all copies thereof, the Regional Officer or the Chairperson may at the expense of the applicant examine the relevant portions of the film or cause it or them to be examined by one or more members of the advisory panel at such time and place as they may determine.

(2) A certificate issued under sub-rule (1) shall be endorsed with a specification of the portion or portions required to be removed and a statement of the exact length of each part or parts removed and in the case of reduction of scene or sequences, it shall mention the length of the portion reduced and the length of the portion retained and shall bear a clearly visible triangle drawn at the left-hand bottom corner of the certificate.

27. Deposit of certified film.- In the case of a feature film, prior to the grant of certificate to the applicant under the foregoing rules, a copy of the film for such period and in such format as may be prescribed by the Board shall be deposited by the applicant with the Board at his own expense for the purpose of record.

Provided that an applicant may voluntarily deposit a copy of the certified film with the NFDC-National Film Archive of India (NFDC-NFAI) in such format and on such payment as may be prescribed by NFDC-NFAI for preservation of the film.

28. Validity of certificate.- A certificate granted by the Board under sub-section (1) of section 5A in respect of a film shall be valid perpetually from the date on which the certificate is granted, and shall be valid throughout India.

29. Compliance with section 6A.-

(1) The manner of notification to the distributor or exhibitor for the purpose of section 6A, shall be in the electronic form (containing both Parts I and II thereof) with the certified film to be distributed or exhibited.

(2) The provisions of sub-rule (1) shall apply in relation to an amendment of a certificate in respect of a film as it applied in relation to the certificate itself.

(3) A copy of certificate of a film referred to in sub-rule (1) shall accompany the film and be prominently exhibited in the theatre on all days on which the film is exhibited therein.

30. Alteration of film after issue of certificate.-

- (1) When a film is altered by, excision, addition, colouring or otherwise after it has been certified under these rules, including addition of subtitles, audio descriptions or closed captioning in languages other than the original language of the film or any other accessibility measures as notified by the Central Government from time to time, it shall not be exhibited unless the portion(s) excised, added, coloured or otherwise altered, have been reported to the Board in Form III in the Second Schedule and the Board has endorsed the particulars of the alteration or alterations on the certificate,

Provided that any of the excisions, additions, colouring or any other alterations reported to the Board for endorsement under this sub-rule shall conform with the category of film it has been certified as under Rule 26.

Explanation.- Any addition, deletion, alteration or replacement of background music in a film shall not be deemed to be an alteration (unless the Chairperson by general or special order otherwise directs) of the film within the meaning of this sub-rule.

- (2) For the purpose of exercising its powers under sub-rule (1) the regional officer shall appoint an Examining Committee to examine the contents of the film in which the portion(s) are altered, at the expense of the applicant, in such manner and with such assistance as he may deem fit and where the Examining Committee considered it necessary to do so, it shall re-examine the entire film:

Provided that where a film is altered by excision or by the change of a coloured film into black and white version only, it shall not ordinarily be necessary to appoint an Examining Committee unless the regional officer in any case otherwise directs.

- (3) The Examining Committee, appointed under sub-rule (2) shall consist of one member of the Advisory Panel and an examining officer,

Provided that where the examining officer is unavoidably absent at the examination of the film, the Examining Committee shall consist of two members of the Advisory Panel.

- (4) Pending examination of the altered film under this rule, the applicant shall not exhibit the film incorporating the proposed alteration.
- (5) Where the film or any portion thereof as the case may be, is re-examined under this rule, the Chairperson shall unless, for reasons to be recorded in writing, he declines permission for the alteration, make suitable endorsement in the certificate granted in relation to the film.

31. Certificates -

- (1) A certificate authorising the public exhibition of a film shall be in one of the forms [Forms IV, IV-A, V, V-A, VI, VI-A, VII or VII-A] set out in the Second Schedule according as the film is fit for 'U' or 'UA with UA Marker' or 'A' or 'S' or [V/U or V/UA with UA Marker or V/A or V/S] certificate as the case may be.
- (2) The certificate shall be signed for and on behalf of the Board by the Chairperson or by a regional officer for the Chairperson.
- (3) The prescribed mark of the Board shall be a film copy of the certificate, i.e. a trailer certificate which shall be affixed to the film and always exhibited with it, where the trailer certificate shall be for such duration as one can read it on the screen:

Provided that Part I or Part II of the certificate shall be shown for a minimum duration of 10 seconds each:

Provided further that if there are no excisions or modifications ordered by the Board, Part II of the certificate need not be shown.

32. Fees. -

- (1) A fee shall be charged for the examination of every film at the rates laid down in the following Table which may be amended from time to time by the Central Government and shall be payable through the e-cinepramaan portal:

Table of Fees

Duration in minutes (up to and inclusive of)	Examination Fees (Other than Predominantly Educational films) (in rupees)	Examination Fees (Predominantly Educational films) (in rupees)	Screening Fees (in rupees)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
10	1,900	550	150
20	3,650	1,100	300
30	5,950	1,200	400
40	7,350	1,450	550
50	9,150	1,850	700
60	10,900	2,200	850
70	12,700	2,550	950
80	14,700	2,950	1,050
90	17,650	3,300	1,250
100	18,250	3,650	1,400
110	20,050	4,000	1,550
120	21,850	4,350	1,650
130	23,800	4,750	1,800
140	23,800	5,100	1,950
150	27,200	5,450	2,100
160	29,150	5,850	2,200
170	30,950	6,200	2,350
180	32,750	6,550	2,500
190	34,750	6,950	2,650
200	36,300	7,250	2,800

- (2) Application under the priority scheme may be made upon payment of 3 times the fee payable for examination of the film as per sub-rule (1) of rule 32, for scheduling examination of a film preferably within five days, subject to available slots as decided by CBFC.
- (3) Fee for the examination of a film for certifying alterations under rule 30 shall be calculated only with reference to the contents, in which the portion(s) excised, added, coloured, or otherwise altered occur and for the purposes at the rates notified from time to time by the Central Government, for original certification shall be applicable:
- (4) In the event of an application for certification being withdrawn before the film is examined, the Board may, on an application, refund to the applicant the amount of fee paid towards the examination of the film after deducting 25 percent of the amount so paid.
- (5) In the event of an applicant failing to present a print before the Examining Committee or the Revising Committee on the day and time and at the place fixed for such examination, an additional fee of 25 per cent of the fee payable for examination of the film shall be paid before another place, date and time for the examination of the film is fixed.

33. Power of entry: - The Chairperson or any member of the Board or an advisory panel or a regional officer or any other officer or member of the staff of the Board or any officer of the Central government authorised in writing by the Chairperson, or members, or any officer of the Central

Government authorised in writing by the Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in this behalf may enter any place licensed under the law in force relating to cinemas, in the discharge of their duties under the Act or these rules and thereupon the owner or the manager of such place shall provide him with a seat of the highest rate or the next lower class to view the film without charging the admission fee and entertainment tax.

34. Advertisement of films: - Any person advertising a film granted 'UA with UA marker', 'A' or 'S' certificate or the exhibition of such film by means of insertions in newspapers, hoardings, posters, handbills or trailers shall, after the date of its certification, indicate in such insertions in newspapers, hoardings, posters, handbills or trailers that the film has been certified for such public exhibition and such advertisement shall indicate only the certified title of a film.

35. Maintenance of Records: -

- (1) The Board and Regional Officers shall maintain an electronic record of the following -
 - (a) the name of every film examined under the Act;
 - (b) the name of the person applying for the certificate;
 - (c) the name of the person or company producing or releasing the film;
 - (d) the name of the country in which the film was originally produced;
 - (e) the name of the place where the film was examined;
 - (f) the date of the examination;
 - (g) the names of the persons who examined the film;
 - (h) the result of the examination and of any further proceedings thereon;
 - (i) the number and date of the certificate issued, if any, together with a copy of any endorsement made thereon
 - (j) such other particulars as may be determined by the Board.

36. Time limit in relation to certification of films: -

- (1) After an application under rule 21 for the certification of a film, complete in all respects (including the payment of fee) is received, the Board shall scrutinize the application within seven days from the receipt thereof.
- (2) The Board shall, within fifteen days from receiving an application under sub-rule (1) refer the film for examination to an Examining Committee.
- (3) The films may be referred to the Examining Committee in the order in which the applications are received:

Provided that the regional officer may on receipt of request from any applicant and on payment of examination fee under rule 32 as per the priority scheme, following the order of receipt of priority application, alter the order of examination of the film.
- (4) (a) In case where the Examining Committee, after examination of the film, considers that a scrutiny of the shooting script (including same-language subtitles, same-language audio descriptions and same-language closed captioning, if any) is necessary or the authenticity of the incidents depicted in a film of historical, mythological, biographical, or legendary nature is to be verified, a provisional report to that effect shall be submitted by the regional officer to the Chairperson within a maximum of three working days after such examination.
 - (b) An online communication shall be sent to the applicant within a maximum of three working days following the receipt of the Chairperson's order on the provisional report referred to in clause (a) and the applicant shall submit the script or the authentic sources on which the subject of his film, is based within five days from the date of such communication.
 - (c) In case, where the members of the Examining Committee after the examination of the film submit to the Chairperson a provisional report indicating that expert opinion on subjects

depicted in the film such as subjects relating to defense or foreign relations or any particular religion or law or medicine or any other subject, should be sought before the final report is submitted, the Chairperson may after taking into consideration the circumstances of the case specify a time limit for obtaining the expert opinion and for the submission of the final report of the Examining Committee thereafter.

(d) In other cases, the script submitted by the applicant or the authentic sources furnished by him shall be scrutinised by the examining officer and the final report of the Examining Committee shall be forwarded by the examining officer to the Chairperson within five days from the date of receipt of the script or the authentic sources, as the case may be.

(5) (a) On receipt of the orders of the Board on the recommendations of the Examining Committee, in case where sub-section (2) of section 4 is applicable, the communication to the applicant shall be issued within three days.

(b) The applicant shall submit his reply within five working days of the receipt of the communication.

(6) In case where the film is not referred to a Revising Committee, a certificate shall be issued, or decision communicated within two days.

(7) (a) In cases where a film is to be referred to a Revising Committee, the Revising Committee shall be constituted within twenty days from the receipt of the necessary documents from the applicant.

(b) The provisions of sub-rule (3) to (6) shall apply mutatis mutandis to the examination of films by the Revising Committee.

(c) When a film is referred to another Revising Committee or to the Board in terms of proviso to sub-rule (12) of rule 24, the time limit will be further extended on the lines of clauses (a) and (b) of this sub-rule.

(8) The applicant shall submit the modifications and surrender the cuts, if any, and the affected contents together with full particulars thereof, within a period of fourteen working days from the date of the final orders of the Board under section 4:

Provided that where the applicant applies to the Board that they intend to appeal against the orders of the Board, the Board may extend the period specified above for surrender of the cuts by such period as it thinks fit, but in any case not beyond fourteen days from the date of disposal of the appeal or from the date of expiration of the period for filing the appeal in cases where no appeal is filed.

(9) The modification/cuts and the affected contents shall be examined by the regional officer within ten working days of the submission of the same.

(10) If the modification/cuts are found to be due and adequate on the scrutiny of the relevant contents and all particulars necessary for the presentation of the certificate are fully furnished, certificate shall be prepared and issued within five working days of the date of submission of the film or upload of the final script on e-cinepramaan portal, as the case may be, as required under these rules.

(11) If however the modification/cuts are found to be inadequate on a scrutiny of the relevant contents, the regional officer shall record the same and send within two days a further communication to the applicant through the e-cinepramaan portal for compliance with the orders of the Board.

(12) The applicant shall submit further modification/cut to the regional officer within three days from the date of receipt of the communication.

(13) The Regional Officer shall again verify further modification/ cuts and the contents within five days of the receipt of the same and if the cuts are found to be adequate a certificate shall be issued.

- (14) For the purpose of these Rules, only working days shall be taken into account while calculating time periods.

37. Preservation of records of certification of films –The records of certification of films shall be preserved for a period as prescribed by the Board.

FIRST SCHEDULE

[See Rule 21]

APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION OF FILMS IMPORTED INTO OR PRODUCED IN THE STATES/UNION TERRITORIES MENTIONED IN COLUMN 3 SHALL BE PRESENTED AT THE REGIONAL OFFICE IN COL 2:

Sl. No.	Regional Office Situated at	Films imported into or produced in
1	Bengaluru	State of Karnataka
2	Mumbai	States of Goa, Gujrat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra and the Union Territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu
3	Calcutta	States of Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal and the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands
4	Cuttack	States of Odisha and Chhattisgarh
5	Delhi	States of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Chandigarh and Delhi
6	Guwahati	States of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Assam, Meghalaya, Sikkim and Tripura, Manipur.
7	Hyderabad	States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana
8	Chennai	State of Tamil Nadu and the Union Territory of Puducherry
9	Thiruvananthapuram	State of Kerala and the Union Territory of Lakshadweep

Note:- [1] The dubbed version of a film, in whatever Indian language, will be submitted for certification only to the Regional Office where the original version of the film was certified in the first instance.

SECOND SCHEDULE

FORM III

[See rule 30]

(Report under rule 30 of the Cinematograph (Certifications) Rules, 2024 regarding an alteration or alterations in a certified film.)

1. Name of the applicant :
2. Name of the film :
3. Certificate No. Dated
4. Particulars of alterations :

Scene No. Description of the scene/dialogue/song length

**

(Specify the exact time-stamp of alteration or alterations, ~~length and the number of the reel or reels~~ in which the alteration or alterations occurs or occur)

To

The Chairman, Central Board of Film Certification Through the Regional Officer
at

I declare that the above particulars are true in every respect and are full description of the alteration or alterations made in the film after its certification.

Date:

Signature of Applicant

Address :

Form IV

[See Rule 31(1)]

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CERTIFICATION

THE CERTIFICATE IS VALID FOR THEATRICAL RELEASE ONLY

PART I

CERTIFICATE.NO.....DATED.....CATEGORY.....
"U".....FILM.....DURATION
MTS

After examination of the film by the members of the Examining Committee/ Revising Committee mentioned below and on the recommendations of the said Examining Committee/ Revising Committee, the Board hereby certifies that the film is fit for unrestricted public exhibition subject to excisions and modifications listed in Part II on the reverse:-

UNRESTRICTED PUBLIC EXHIBITION

Further certified that the excisions and modifications imposed by the Board have actually been carried out.

Name of the applicant

Name of the Producer

CHAIRMAN

PART II

Particulars of excisions and modifications :

Form IV-A
[See Rule 31(1)]
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CERTIFICATION
THIS CERTIFICATE IS VALID FOR VIDEO FILMS ONLY
PART I

CERTIFICATE NO.....DATED.....CATEGORY.....
“V/U”.....FILM.....LENGTH

After examination of the film by the members of the Examining Committee/ Revising Committee mentioned below and on the recommendations of the said Examining Committee/ Revising Committee, the Board hereby certifies that the film is fit for unrestricted public exhibition subject to excisions and modifications listed in Part II on the reverse:-

UNIVERSAL VIDEO

Further certified that the excisions and modifications imposed by the Board have actually been carried out.

Name of the applicant

Name of the Producer

CHAIRMAN

PART II

Particulars of excisions and modifications :

Form V
[See Rule 31(1)]
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CERTIFICATION
THIS CERTIFICATE IS VALID FOR THEATRICAL RELEASE ONLY
Part I

CERTIFICATE.NO.....DATED.....CATEGORY.....
“A”.....FILM.....LENGTH MTS

After examination of the film by the members of the Examining Committee/ Revising Committee mentioned below and on the recommendations of the said Examining Committee/ Revising Committee, the Board hereby certifies that the film is fit for public exhibition, restricted to adults only, subject to excisions and modifications listed in Part II on the reverse:-

ADULTS ONLY

Further certified that the excisions and modifications imposed by the Board have actually been carried out.

Name of the applicant

Name of the Producer

CHAIRMAN

PART II

Particulars of excisions and modifications :

Form V-A
[See Rule 31(1)]
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CERTIFICATION
THIS CERTIFICATE IS VALID FOR VIDEO FILMS ONLY
Part I

CERTIFICATE.NO.....DATED.....CATEGORY.....
“V/A”.....FILM.....

After examination of the film by the members of the Examining Committee/ Revising Committee mentioned below and on the recommendations of the said Examining Committee/ Revising Committee, the Board hereby certifies that the film is fit for public exhibition, restricted to adults only, subject to excisions and modifications listed in Part II on the reverse:-

ADULTS ONLY VIDEO

Further certified that the excisions and modifications imposed by the Board have actually been carried out.

Name of the applicant

Name of the Producer

CHAIRMAN

PART II

Particulars of excisions and modifications :

Form VI
[See Rule 31(1)]
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CERTIFICATION

THIS CERTIFICATE IS VALID FOR THEATRICAL RELEASE ONLY
Part I

CERTIFICATE.NO.....DATED.....CATEGORY.....
“U/A with U/A
marker”.....FILM.....

After examination of the film by the members of the Examining Committee/ Revising Committee mentioned below and on the recommendations of the said Examining Committee/ Revising Committee,the Board hereby certifies that the film is fit for public exhibition with endorsement of caution that the question as to whether in child below the age of seven , thirteen or sixteen years may be allowed to see the film should be considered by the parents or the guardian of such child and also subject to excisions and modifications listed in Part II on the reverse:-

PARENTAL GUIDANCE

Further certified that the excisions and modifications imposed by the Board have actually been carried out.

Name of the applicant

Name of the Producer

CHAIRMAN

PART II

Particulars of excisions and modifications :

Form VI-A
[See Rule 31(1)]
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CERTIFICATION

THIS CERTIFICATE IS VALID FOR VIDEO FILMS ONLY
Part I

CERTIFICATE.NO.....DATED.....CATEGORY.....
“V/A”.....FILM.....LENGTH MTS

After examination of the film by the members of the Examining Committee/ Revising Committee mentioned below and on the recommendations of the said Examining Committee/ Revising Committee, the Board hereby certifies that the film is fit for public exhibition with endorsement of caution that the question as to whether in child below the age of seven, thirteen or sixteen years may be allowed to see the film should be considered by the parents or the guardian of such child and also subject to excisions and modifications listed in Part II on the reverse:-

PARENTAL GUIDANCE VIDEO

Further certified that the excisions and modifications imposed by the Board have actually been carried out.

Name of the applicant

Name of the Producer

CHAIRMAN

PART II

Particulars of excisions and modifications :

Form VII

[See Rule 31(1)]

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CERTIFICATION

THIS CERTIFICATE IS VALID FOR THEATRICAL RELEASE ONLY

Part I

CERTIFICATE.NO.....DATED.....CATEGORY.....
"S".....FILM.....

After examination of the film by the members of the Examining Committee/ Revising Committee mentioned below and on the recommendations of the said Examining Committee/ Revising Committee the Board hereby certifies that the film is fit for public exhibition restricted to members of any profession or any class of persons, subject to excisions and modifications listed in Part II on the reverse:-

SPECIALISED AUDIENCE

Further certified that the excisions and modifications imposed by the Board have actually been carried out.

Name of the applicant

Name of the Producer

CHAIRMAN

PART II

Particulars of excisions and modifications :

Form VII-A
([See Rule 31(1)]
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CERTIFICATION

THIS CERTIFICATE IS VALID FOR VIDEO FILMS ONLY
Part I

CERTIFICATE.NO.....DATED.....CATEGORY.....
“V/S”FILM.....

After examination of the film by the members of the Examining Committee/ Revising Committee/ mentioned below and on the recommendations of the said Examining Committee/ Revising Committee, the Board hereby certifies that the film is fit for public exhibition restricted to members of any profession or any class of persons, subject to excisions and modifications listed in Part II on the reverse

SPECIALISED AUDIENCE VIDEO

Further certified that the excisions and modifications imposed by the Board have actually been carried out.

Name of the applicant

Name of the Producer

CHAIRMAN

PART II

Particulars of excisions and modifications :

FORM VIII
[See rules 22(9) and 24 (9)]
CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CERTIFICATION

Form of Report of Member of Examining/Revising Committee

N.B. :- Please study the guidelines issued by the Government once again before you preview the film.

Title of the film and language.....Colour/Black and White.....Running time of the film.....

Date of Examination.....Name of the Member.....

- I. I certify that I have carefully examined the above film with reference to the guidelines.
I recommend refusal of certificate to the film. OR
I recommend the grant of the following certificate
'U'/'UA with UA marker' / 'A' / 'S'
with excisions or/and modifications
without excisions/ or and modification

[Delete whichever is not applicable]

- II. In the case of grant of 'S' certificate, please specify the class or group of persons which should constitute the specialised audience:-

.....
...

- III. Reasons for refusal of certificate or grant of 'UA with UA Marker' / 'A' / 'S' certificate.

.....
...

Note: 'U' unrestricted public exhibition
'UA with UA Marker'- unrestricted public exhibition with an endorsement of caution that the question as to whether in child below the age of seven, thirteen or sixteen years may be allowed to see the film should be considered by the parents or the guardian of such child.
'A'- public exhibition restricted to adults.
'S'- public exhibition restricted to members of any profession or any class of persons.

- IV. Details of excisions/modifications (Please see note below)

Sl No	Clear and Specific description of excisions or modifications	Reasons with specific reference to the guidelines

- V. Thematic classification (only in the case of feature films):-
- VI. Any other remarks (including justification for permitting certain visuals and/or words prima facie appear to be objectionable)
- VII. I certify that there would be no infraction of the guidelines if the film is granted a certificate as recommended above.

I also certify that the film has been judged in its entirety from the point of view of its overall impact; that the film has been examined in the light of the period depicted in the film and contemporary standards of the country and the people to which the film relates; and that the film does not deprive the morality of the people.

I certify that while recommending the film for unrestricted public exhibition I have satisfied myself that the film is suitable for family viewing, including children.

.....
Signature

Notes: 1. While recommending excisions the beginning and the end of the excision should be clearly described and the time period of the excision may be given as a percentage of the total scene ~~or in meters/feet~~.

2. [*Omitted*]

3. Also if certain portions are to be completely deleted whole reducing a scene or sequence these should be specified.

FORM-IX
[See Rule 26]

I/We the applicant(s) in respect of the film by the Board of Film Certification in the film..... do hereby declare that the portion(s) objected to by the Board of Film Certification in the film as endorsed on the certificate have been excised from the film.

I/We further declare that the above declaration is correct in all respects.

.....
Signature of applicant

Place:
Date :

Name:
Address:

THIRD SCHEDULE

[See Rule 22(12)]

Based on the type and length of the content to be certified, an examining officer shall send the recommendations of all members of the Examining Committee under sub-rule (12) of rule 22 to the authority given below:

S. No.	Type and length of the Content	Authority for approving the Content
1.	Theatrical Long (more than 72 minutes)	Chairperson
2.	Theatrical Medium (10 to 72 minutes)	Chairperson
3.	Theatrical Short (less than 10 minutes) – Trailer/ Teaser/ Promo and other cinematic content	Chairperson
4.	Theatrical Short (less than 10 minutes) – Others	Regional Officer concerned

5.	Dubbed Theatrical Long	Regional Officer concerned
6.	Dubbed Theatrical Medium	Regional Officer concerned
7.	Dubbed Theatrical Short	Regional Officer concerned
8.	Video Long/ Medium	Chief Executive Officer
9.	Video Short – Trailer/ Teaser/ Promo and other cinematic content	Chairperson
10.	Video Short – Others	Regional Officer concerned
11.	Category Conversion Long	Chief Executive Officer
12.	Revised Film Category	Chief Executive Officer

Note: (1) The above table can be amended by the Board from time to time with the approval of the Central Government.