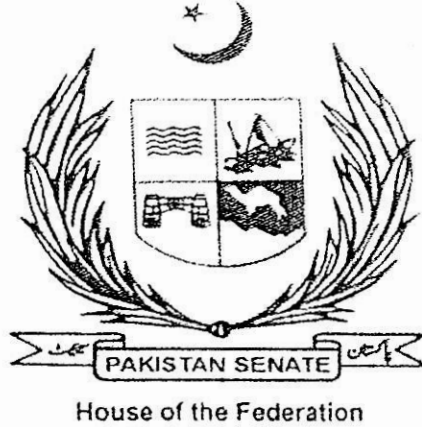


SENATE OF PAKISTAN



**REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING**

ON

**THE MOTION PICTURE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024 INTRODUCED BY MR.
MURTAZA SOLANGI, THE THEN MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING IN THE SENATE SITTING HELD ON 25-04-2024.**

Report No 01 of 2026

PRESENTED BY

**SENATOR SARMAD ALI
Acting Chairman**

SENATE SECRETARIAT

REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING ON THE MOTION PICTURE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024, INTRODUCED BY MR. MURTAZA SOLANGI, THEN MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, IN THE SENATE ON 25-04-2024 AND REFERRED BY THE HOUSE TO THE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION AND REPORT.

I have the honour to present, on behalf of the Senate Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting, this report on the Motion Picture (Amendment) Bill, 2024. The Bill was introduced in the Senate on 25-04-2024 by Mr. Murtaza Solangi, then Minister for Information and Broadcasting, and was subsequently referred by the House to the Committee for consideration and report.

2. The Composition of the Standing Committee is given as under:-

1.	Senator Syed Ali Zafar	Chairman
2.	Senator Aon Abbas	Member
3.	Senator Faisal Javed	Member
4.	Senator Abdul Shakoor Khan	Member
5.	Senator M. Fesal Vawda	Member
6.	Senator Ashraf Ali Jatoi	Member
7.	Senator Sarmad Ali	Member
8.	Senator Syed Waqar Mehdi	Member
9.	Senator Muhammad Tallal Badar	Member
10.	Senator Pervaiz Rashid	Member
11.	Senator Jan Muhammad	Member
12.	Minister for Information & Broadcasting	Ex-Officio Member

3. The Committee held its meetings on 6th August, 2025 and 10th March, 2026 to consider the Bill. The meeting held on 10th March was called on requisition. Senator Sarmad Ali was elected as acting Chairman of the Committee and it was attended by the following Members::

1.	Senator Sarmad Ali	Acting Chairman
2.	Senator Jan Muhammad	Member
3.	Senator Syed Waqar Mehdi	Member
4.	Senator Pervaiz Rashid	Member (Through Zoom)
5.	Senator Muhammad Abdul Qadir	Mover
6.	Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting	Ex-Officio Member

4. On its meeting on 6th August 2025 the Committee discussed the Bill in detail. Officials from the Central Board of Film Censors (CBFC), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (M/o I&B), briefed the Committee on the Bill, highlighting amendments in the Bill. The Committee was informed that; in Section 2, and in throughout the Bill, the term Federal Government has been replaced by Division Concerned and in Section 3 it has been proposed that;

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in sub-section (1), for the words "Federal Government", the words "Division Concerned" and for "as many boards" the words "a board" and for words "each such board" the words "the board" shall be substituted

5. The Committee examined the proposal to substitute the term "Federal Government" with "Division Concerned" in Section 2 and throughout the Bill. The Ministry explained that the proposed substitution was intended to avoid procedural delays arising from mandatory consultations with the Cabinet and the Prime Minister and to ensure expeditious decision-making.
6. The Committee deliberated upon the legal and constitutional implications of this substitution, particularly in light of judicial interpretation of the term "Federal Government." While noting the concerns regarding concentration of powers, the Committee observed that the Division Concerned functions under the Federal Government and is headed by a Federal Minister. After due consideration, the Committee agreed to the proposed amendment, with the observation that such powers must be exercised prudently.
7. The Committee considered amendments in Section 3 relating to the constitution of the Board. The proposed amendments seek to establish a single Board in place of multiple boards and to vest the power of appointment in the Division Concerned to ensure administrative efficiency and timely appointments.
8. The Committee was also apprised of the composition and criteria for appointment of Board members, including representation from relevant fields and inclusion of women members. The Committee agreed to the proposed amendments in Section 3.
9. The Committee examined the proposed amendment in Section 6, whereby the term "Censorship Code" is proposed to be substituted with "Certification Code," reflecting a shift from censorship to classification.
10. The Committee, while agreeing to the proposed substitution, directed that the Certification Code shall be subject to approval by the Federal Government. The Committee further observed that the Code should be facilitative rather than restrictive and should not create unnecessary hurdles for the entertainment industry.
11. The Committee expressed concern over the inadequacy of the existing appellate mechanism. It was observed that vesting appellate authority in the Secretary against decisions of the Board was not appropriate.
12. The Committee, therefore, recommended the establishment of a structured Appellate Committee to hear appeals against decisions of the Board.
13. Accordingly, the Committee recommended amendment in Section 7 to substitute the words "Federal Government" with "Appellate Committee (constituted by the Division Concerned)."
14. The Committee further recommended substitution of Section 9 to provide for the constitution, composition, and powers of the Appellate Committee, including the authority to hear appeals, examine record and evidence, and uphold, modify, or set aside decisions of the Board.



15. The Committee discussed amendments in Section 14 of the Bill and approved it.
16. Section 15, relating to delegation of powers, was reviewed. The Committee noted that ~~only the Federal Government could delegate powers, not the Secretary. Therefore, it was recommended to either retain the section as is or remove it entirely.~~
17. Amendments to Sections 17 and 18 were approved.
18. On its meeting on 10th March 2026, the Committee reviewed the Bill and approved the following amendments along with previous:-

I. Section 6

The Committee proposed amendment in Section 6(2). The Committee proposed substitution of word "ordinance" with "Act" and "Censorship Code" with "Certification Code".

II. Section 7

In section 7, in sub-section (1), for the words "Federal Government", the words "Appellate Committee (constituted by the Division concerned)" shall be substituted.

III. Section 9

The Committee recommended the substitution of section 9 with the following;
"9. Constitution of an appellate committee"


- (1) The Division concerned will form an Appellate committee to address the complaint of a person who is aggrieved by any order of the Board while applying for certification of a film. The appellate committee will:
- (a) Hear appeals against orders, and penalties.
 - (b) Examine record/evidence in respect of the certification of a film.
 - (c) Will uphold, modify or dismiss an order or penalty of the Board.
- (2) The Appellate Committee shall comprise of the following:
- (a) Minister for Information and Broadcasting – Chairperson
 - (b) Secretary/Representative not below BS-21 from Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defence – Members
 - (c) Joint Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting – Secretary to the Appellate Committee

IV. Section 13

Amendments in the heading of Chapter III by inserting the following words after the word "Cinematograph" "or other materials being used for satellite TV channels, cable TV, internet or any other apparatus"

In the said Ordinance, in section 13,-

- (a) in the heading of Section 13, after the word "exhibition", the words (Cinema Building/House or Projection Hall/Premises) shall be inserted;

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- (b) in the sub-section (1), after the word “place”, the words “(Cinema Building/House or Projection Hall/Premises)” shall be inserted
- (c) in sub-section (1), after the word “cinematograph”, the words “or other modern devices or systems” shall be inserted;
- (d) in sub-section (2), (i) for the words “Provincial Government”, the words “Respective Administration” shall be substituted; (ii) in the proviso, for the words “Provincial Government”, the words “Division concerned” and for the word “Province”, the words “Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) and the areas under administrative control of the Federal Government” shall be substituted; and
- (e) in sub-section (5), for the words “Provincial Government”, the words “Division Concerned” shall be substituted.

Additionally, the Committee recommended that a certification screen displaying relevant details be mandatorily shown prior to the exhibition of every film.

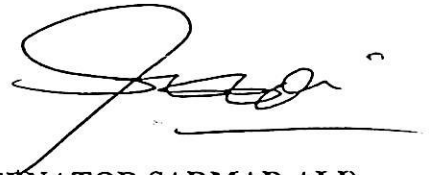
V. Section 15

In Section 15 the word “ordinance” may be substituted by the word “Act”.

19. After detailed deliberation, the Committee unanimously passed the Bill with amendments. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the Motion Picture (Amendment) Bill, 2024, as reported by the Committee, may be passed by the Senate of Pakistan. (Copy of the Bill as reported by the Committee is annexed as “A” and a copy of the Bill as introduced in the Senate is annexed as “B”.)



(AYAZ AHMED SOOMRO)
Secretary Committee



(SENATOR SARMAD ALI)
Acting Chairman

AS REPORTED BY THE COMMITTEE

A

Bill

to amend the Motion Pictures Ordinance,

1979

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the certification of films and the regulation of exhibition of films by means of cinematographs or other materials being used for satellite television channels, cable television, internet and by other modern devices and systems;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Motion Pictures Ordinance, 1979 (XLIII of 1979), in the manner and for the purposes herein appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:

1. Short title and commencement. –

- (1) This Act shall be called the Motion Pictures (Amendment) Act, 2025.
- (2) It extends to Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) and the areas under administrative control of the Federal Government.

2. Amendment of Section 2, Ordinance XLIII of 1979. – In the Motion Pictures Ordinance, 1979 (XLIII of 1979), hereinafter, referred to as the said Ordinance, in section 2,-

- (a) the existing clause (a) shall be re-numbered as clause (aa) and be substituted, namely: "Board" means Federal Board of Film Certification (FBFC) established under section 3;
- (b) before clause (aa), re-numbered as aforesaid, the following new clause shall be inserted, namely:
“(a) “authorized documents” means documents required for film certification as notified by the division concerned;”;
- (c) the existing clause may be substituted, namely:
“(b) “Chairperson”, in relation to the Board means the Chairperson of the Board
- (d) in clause (c) after the word “apparatus”, the expression, “modern devices or systems” shall be inserted;
- (e) after clause (c), amended as aforesaid, the following new clause shall be inserted, namely:-
“(ca) “division concerned” means the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting;”;
- (f) after clause (d), the following new clause shall be inserted, namely:-

“(da) “NOC” means the No Objection Certificate issued by the Division concerned for the Certification of Film”

(g) after clause (f), the following new clause shall be inserted, namely:

“(g) “respective administration” means the District and Cantonment Board Administration”

(h) after clause (g), the following new clause shall be inserted, namely: “vice-chairperson”, in relation to the Board means the Vice-Chairperson of the Board

3. Amendment of section 3, Ordinance XLIII of 1979. – In the said Ordinance, in Section 3,-

(a) in sub-section (1), for the words "Federal Government", the words "Division concerned" and for "as many boards" the words "a board" and for words "each such board" the words "the board" shall be substituted.

(b) for sub-section (2), the following shall substitute, namely:

(2)(i) The Board shall consist of Fifteen (15) members. The composition is as follows:

(a) Two (02) ex-officio members i.e. Chairperson (BS-21) and Vice-Chairperson (BS-20) from Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Information Group) appointed under Rule 6 of the Civil Servants (Appointment Promotions and Transfer) Rules 1973.

(b) Six (06) ex-officio Members including an officer / representative not below (BS-20) from Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Main Secretariat), an officer not below (BS-20/19) from External Publicity (EP) Wing; two officers not below (BS-20) from Ministry of Defence; and one officer not below (BS-20) each from Ministry of Interior and ICT Administration.

(c) Seven (07) Private Members i.e. persons of eminence from media, law, performing arts, social services and civil society etc. Of the Seven private members, two members shall be women.

(ii) The Board shall also be assisted by BS-19, BS-18 and BS-17 officers along with a Secretary (BS-19) to be appointed/posted by the Division concerned for duties and powers as may be prescribed.

(c) For sub-section (3), the following shall be substituted, namely:

(3) (i) Seven private members of the Board shall be appointed by the Minister in-charge and shall hold office for a period of three years and may be nominated again for one term. All members shall receive emoluments, if any, as may be determined by the Division concerned in consultation with the Ministry of Finance.

(ii) A member, other than ex officio and official members, shall be deemed to have vacated his/her office if he/she absents himself/herself from three consecutive Board meetings without the leave from the Division concerned.

4. **Amendment of section 4, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.**- In the said Ordinance, in section 4, for the sub-section (2), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(2) Any person desiring to submit any film for certification for public exhibition shall, in the prescribed manner, make an application to the Board for a certificate in respect thereof along with its recording, print or such equivalent material as the Board may determine, including sound track of speech, songs, music, effect, cast, credit, NOC and authorized documents, thereafter the Board shall examine the film in the prescribed manner.”

5. **Amendment of section 6, Ordinance XLIII of 1979,** In the said Ordinance, in Section 6, in sub-section (2),

for the words “Censorship Code” the words “Certification Code” shall be substituted

6. **Amendment of section 7, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.** – In the said Ordinance, in section 7, in sub-section (1),

for the words “Federal Government”, the words “Appellate Committee (constituted by the Division concerned)” shall be substituted.

7. **Amendment of section 8, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.**- In the said Ordinance, in section 8,-

(a) in sub-section (2), for the words “District Nazim”, the word “District Magistrate” shall be substituted

(b) in sub-section (4), after the expression "exhibition," the words shall be added, namely:-

"the chairperson him/herself or on advice of"; and

(c) in sub-section (5), for the words "District Nazim", the word "District Magistrate" shall be substituted

(d) after sub-section (5), the following sub-section (5a) shall be inserted:

(5a), where the police officer mentioned in the sub-section (5) is not available at the spot and there is sufficient reason to believe that the film is being exhibited in contravention of any provision of the Motion Picture (Amendments) Act 2025 an officer authorized by the board, may take into possession cinematograph and other exhibiting material and immediately present a report to the Board.

(e) in sub-section (6), for the words "Federal Government" wherever occurring, the word "Division concerned" shall be substituted.

8. **Amendment of section 9, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.**- In the said Ordinance, Section 9 may be substituted namely,-

9. Constitution of an Appellate Committee. - (1) The Division concerned will form an Appellate committee to address the complaint of a person who is aggrieved by any order of the Board while applying for certification of a film. The appellate committee will:

- (a) Hear appeals against orders and penalties.
- (b) Examine record/evidence in respect of the certification of a film.
- (c) Will uphold, modify or dismiss an order or penalty of the Board.

(2) The Appellate Committee shall comprise of the following:

- (a) Minister Information and Broadcasting – Chairperson
- (b) Secretary/Representative not below BS-21 from Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defense – Members
- (c) Joint Secretary Ministry of Information and Broadcasting – Secretary to the Appellate Committee

9. **Amendment of section 11, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.**- In the said Ordinance, in section 11, for the words "Federal Government", the words "Division concerned" shall be substituted.

10. **Amendment of heading of Chapter III, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.**- In the said Ordinance, in Chapter III, in heading, after the word "Cinematograph", the following shall be added, namely:-

"or other materials being used for satellite tv channels, cable tv, internet or any other apparatus"

11. **Amendment of section 13, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.**- In the said Ordinance, in section 13,-

- (a) in the heading of Section 13, after the word "exhibition", the words (Cinema Building/House or Projection Hall/Premises) shall be inserted;
- (b) in the sub-section (1), after the word "place", the words "(Cinema Building/House or Projection Hall/Premises)" shall be inserted
- (c) in sub-section (1), after the word "cinematograph", the words "or other modern devices or systems" shall be inserted;
- (d) in sub-section (2),
 - (i) for the words "Provincial Government", the words "Respective Administration" shall be substituted;
 - (ii) in the proviso, for the words "Provincial Government", the words "Division concerned" and for the word "Province", the words "Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) and the areas under administrative control of the Federal Government" shall be substituted; and
- (e) in sub-section (5), for the words "Provincial Government", the words "Division Concerned" shall be substituted.

12. **Amendment of section 14, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.**- In the said Ordinance, in section 14,

for the words "Federal Government or the Provincial Government", the words "Division concerned or Respective Administration" shall be substituted.

13. **Amendment of section 16, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.**- In the said Ordinance, in section 16,

for the word "Chairman", the term Chairperson and for the words "a Board", the term "The Board" shall be substituted.

Point 13 in the previous draft removed in this draft about section 15 omission

14. Amendment of section 17, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.- In the said Ordinance, in section 17,-

in sub-section (1), for the words "Federal Government", "a Provincial Government" and "a Board", the expression "Division concerned" and "Respective Administration" and "The Board" shall be substituted.

15. Amendment of section 18, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.- In the said Ordinance, in section 18,-

(a) in sub-section (1), for the words "one lac", the words "one million" and for the words "ten thousand", the word "one hundred thousand" shall be substituted;

(b) in sub-section 2, for the words "ten thousand", the words "one hundred thousand" and for the words "two thousand", the words "ten thousand" shall be substituted; and

(c) after sub-section (5), the following new sub-section shall be added, namely:-

"(6) Any copyright infringement and piracy shall be punishable under the Copyright Ordinance, 1962 and as amended from time to time."

"B"

INTRODUCED ON 25.04.2024

AS
[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]

A

Bill

further to amend the Motion Pictures Ordinance, 1979

WHEREAS, it is expedient to provide for the certification of films and the regulation of exhibition of films by means of cinematographs or other materials being used for satellite television channels, cable television, internet and by other modern devices and systems;

AND WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Motion Pictures Ordinance, 1979 (XLIII of 1979), in the manner and for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. **Short title and commencement.**— (1) This Act shall be called the Motion Pictures (Amendment) Act, 2024.

(2) It shall extend to Islamabad Capital Territory.

2. **Amendment of section 2, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.**— In the Motion Pictures Ordinance, 1979 (XLIII of 1979), hereinafter referred to as the said Ordinance, in section 2,—

(a) the existing clause (a) shall be re-numbered as clause (aa);

(b) before clause (aa), re-numbered as aforesaid, the following new clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(a) “authorized documents” means documents required for film certification as may be notified by the division concerned;”;

(c) after clause (aa), re-numbered as aforesaid, the following new clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(ab) “CBFC” stands for Central Board of Film Certification;”;

(d) in clause (c), after the word “apparatus”, the expression “, modern devices or systems” shall be inserted; and

(e) after clause (c), amended as aforesaid, the following new clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(ca) “division concerned” means the ministry or, as the case may be, the division to which business of this Ordinance stands allocated;”.

3. **Amendment of section 3, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.**— In the said Ordinance, in section 3,—

(a) in sub-section (1), for the words “Federal Government”, the words “Prime Minister” shall be substituted;

(b) in sub-section (2), for the words “Federal Government”, the words “Prime Minister” shall be substituted.

(c) for sub-section (3), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(3) The private members of the Board shall hold office for a period of three years and receive such salary and allowances, if any, as may be determined by the Prime Minister.”; and

(d) after sub-section (3), substituted as aforesaid, the following new sub-section shall be added, namely:-

“(4) At least one-third of total membership of the Board shall make a quorum for the Board’s meeting.”

4. **Amendment of section 4, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.**- In the said Ordinance, in section 4, for sub-section (2), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(2) Any person desiring to submit any film for certification for public exhibition shall, in the prescribed manner, make an application to the Board for a certificate in respect thereof along with its recording, print or such equivalent material as the Board may determine, including sound track of speech, songs, music and effect, cast and credit and authorized documents, thereafter the Board shall examine the film in the prescribed manner.”

5. **Amendment of section 7, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.** - In the said Ordinance, in section 7, in sub-section (1), for the words “Federal Government”, the words “division concerned” shall be substituted.

6. **Amendment of section 8, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.**- In the said Ordinance, in section 8,-

(a) in sub-section (4), after the expression “exhibition,”, the words “the chairperson himself or on advice of” shall be inserted; and

(b) in sub-section (6), for the words “Federal Government”, wherever occurring, the word “division concerned” shall be substituted.

7. **Amendment of section 9, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.**- In the said Ordinance, in section 9,-

(a) in the marginal heading, for the words “Federal Government”, the words “division concerned” shall be substituted;

(b) in sub-section (1), for the words “Federal Government”, the words “division concerned” shall be substituted;

(c) in sub-section (2),-

(i) for the words “Federal Government”, wherever occurring the words “division concerned” shall be substituted;

(ii) in clause (a), for the expression “Censorship of Films Act, 1963 (XVIII of 1963)”, the expression “Censorship of Film Rules, 1980” shall be substituted and for the words “the whole or any part of Pakistan”, the expression “Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT)” shall be substituted, and

(iii) in clause (b), for the expression "Censorship of Films Act, 1963", the expression "Censorship of Film Rules, 1980" shall be substituted; and

(d) after sub-section (2), amended as aforesaid, the following new sub-sections shall be added, namely:-

"(3) Where an applicant for a certificate, or any other person to whom the rights in the film have been passed, is aggrieved by any order of the division concerned in pursuance of sub-section (1) and sub-section (2), he may within thirty days of the date of publication of the notification in the official Gazette make an application to the division concerned for review of the order, setting out in such application the grounds on which he considers such review to be necessary.

(4) On receipt of the application under sub-section (3), the division concerned may, after giving the aggrieved person a reasonable opportunity of being heard and after making such further inquiry as it may consider necessary, pass such order as it thinks fit, confirming, modifying or reversing its decision and the Board shall dispose of the matter in conformity with such order.

(5) During the period in which a certificate remains suspended or revoked under this section, the film shall be deemed to be an uncertified film."

8. Amendment of section 11, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.- In the said Ordinance, in section 11, for the words "Federal Government", the words "division concerned" shall be substituted.

9. Amendment of heading of Chapter III, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.- In the said Ordinance, in Chapter III, in the heading, after the word "CINEMATOGRAPH", the words "OR OTHER MODERN DEVICES OR SYSTEMS" shall be added.

10. Amendment of section 13, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.- In the said Ordinance, in section 13,-

(a) in sub-section (1), after the word "cinematograph", the words "or other modern devices or systems" shall be inserted;

(b) in sub-section (2),-

(i) for the words "Provincial Government", the words "administration of ICT" shall be substituted;

(ii) in the proviso, for the words "Provincial Government", the words "administration of ICT" and for the word "Province", the word "ICT" shall be substituted; and

(c) in sub-section (5), for the words "Provincial Government", the words "administration of ICT" shall be substituted.

11. Amendment of section 14, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.- In the said Ordinance, in section 14, for the words "Federal Government or the Provincial Government", the words "division concerned" shall be substituted.

12. Amendment of section 16, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.- In the said Ordinance, in section 16, for the words "a Board", the expression "the CBFC" shall be substituted.

13. Amendment of section 17, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.- In the said Ordinance, in section 17, in sub-section (1), for the words "a Provincial Government", the expression "administration of ICT" shall be substituted.

14. Amendment of section 18, Ordinance XLIII of 1979.- In the said Ordinance, in section 18,

(a) in sub-section (2), for the words "ten thousand", the words "one hundred thousand" and for the words "two thousand", the words "ten thousand" shall be substituted; and

(b) after sub-section (5), the following new sub-section shall be added, namely:-

"(6) Any copyright infringement and piracy shall be punishable under the Copyright Ordinance, 1962 (XXXIV of 1962)."

STATEMENTS OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

In order to cater to the technological advancements, insertion has been made in the preamble for certification of films and the regulation of exhibition of films by means of cinematographs or other materials being used for satellite television channels, cable television, internet and by other modern devices and systems.

2. Post 18th Amendment to the Constitution of Pakistan 1973, certification and exhibition of cinematograph films is a provincial subject. Therefore, application of Motion Pictures (Amendment) Bill, 2023 has been limited to Islamabad Capital Territory only.

3. Keeping in view the text of the Bill and in order to strengthen the monitoring/regulatory function of Central Board of Film Censors (CBFC), a few new expressions like 'authorized documents', 'modern devices or systems' etc. have been added in the 'definitions' section of the Bill.

4. The name of the organization has been changed from 'Central Board of Film Censors' to 'Central Board of Film Certification'. As the word 'censor' carries negative connotation, it has been replaced with the word 'certification'.

5. In light of the Supreme Court's decision in the Mustafa Impex Case, Federal Cabinet in Case No. 419/19/2017, dated 08-09-2017 directed that all Ministries/Divisions, in consultation with the Law and Justice Division, shall make amendments in respective Acts/Ordinances/Rules and replace the word "Federal Government" with appropriate authority(ies). The Federal Cabinet reiterated its earlier directions in cases No. 241/15/2018, dated 12-04-2018 and No. 64/05/2022 dated 15-02-2022, so that the Cabinet is not burdened with frivolous cases. Accordingly, appointing authority in case of Chairman CBFC and private members has been changed from Federal Government to Prime Minister. In certain clauses of the proposed Bill, the authority from 'Federal Government' has been changed to 'Division concerned'.

6. In Section 9, for the expression 'Censorship of Films Act, 1963 (XVIII of 1963)', the expression 'Censorship of Film Rules, 1980' has been substituted as 'Censorship of Films Act, 1963 (XVIII of 1963)' was repealed by 'Motion Pictures Ordinance, 1979' and since then the films are being certified under 'Censorship Rules, 1980' made under 'Motion Pictures Ordinance, 1979'.

7. In order to ensure transparency and right to appeal, new sub-sections have been added in Section 9 which provide right to appeal to an applicant for a certificate or any other person to whom the rights in the film have passed, is aggrieved by any order of the division concerned in pursuance of sub-section (1) and sub-section (2) of Section 9.

8. In case of violations on the part of owner or a person in-charge of a cinematograph, the amount of fine has been increased in Section 18, keeping in view the impact of the fine.

9. In order to prevent piracy and copy rights violations, a new sub-section pertaining to copyright infringement and piracy has been added in Section 18.

10. There are certain other amendments which have been proposed in the Motion Pictures (Amendment) Bill, 2023 to resolve the procedural issues of CBFC.



(Murtaza Solangi)
Minister for Information & Broadcasting