

**MOST IMMEDIATE**

**No.M-11018/33/2023-DO(FC)  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
'A' Wing, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi-110 001**

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Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2023

**ADVISORY**

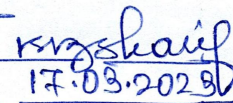
**WHEREAS** it has come to the notice of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting that some individuals are approaching organisations/persons/institutes/agencies etc that time and again, off and on, occasionally, intermittently or otherwise curate films/movies/documentaries/web series etc or are engaged in organising non-commercial film festivals to a limited number of audiences either in order to promote different cultures of the world or to provide a platform to discuss the art of cinematography with targeted viewers with the false claim to facilitate in obtaining requisite permission/grant/approval from the Ministry to curate the films or organise the film festivals and demanding some gratifications/bribe to get the work done;

2. **AND WHEREAS**, it has also been observed that these unauthorised persons often inquire about the status of the applications for screening exemption of the Films to be screened in various Film Festivals which are received in the Ministry and charge money from the Film Festival Organizers in lieu of the permission of exemption;

3. **AND WHEREAS**, this Ministry exempts the exhibition of any film or class of films from the provisions of certification under Section 9 of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 as per the Policy for certification of films for film festivals vide O.M. No. 808/5/2004-F(C) dated 17.01.2006 that stipulates that the screening of films in such film festivals shall strictly be non-commercial and limited to delegates;

4. **AND WHEREAS**, this Ministry adopts very transparent way in dealing with issuance of sanction of the screening exemption in a non-commercial film festival as per the standard guidelines already set, relevant provisions of extant Rules and Regulations and established norms already put in practice after receiving the requisite documents from the applicants without any prescribed fees or cost involved in the entire process;

5. Now, **THEREFORE**, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting hereby advises all Film Festival Organizers/Individuals/Agencies/Institutes/Entities etc to directly submit their applications to this Ministry as per the approved Policy for certification of films for film festivals for exemption of films from the provisions of certification that is already uploaded on this Ministry's official website at <https://mib.gov.in/codesguidelinespolicies/policy-certification-films-film-festivals> for screening in their Film Festivals.

  
17.03.2023

(Md. Zahid Sharif)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Tele: 011-23382487

**All Film Festival Organizers/Organizations/Individuals etc concerned**