

Public comments sought on Cinematograph Act (Amendment) Bill

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
Government of India

Dated: 3rd January, 2019

Film piracy, particularly release of pirated version of films on internet, causes huge losses to the film industry and government exchequer. It is therefore felt necessary to have enabling provision in the Cinematograph Act, 1952 in order to check film piracy.

Penalties for contravention of provisions for certification of films for public exhibition are given under Section 7 of the Cinematograph Act, 1952. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting proposes for introduction of Cinematograph Act (Amendment) Bill for inclusion of a new Sub-Section (4) of Section 7 of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 with the following text:

“Notwithstanding any law for the time being in force including any provision of the Copyright Act, 1957, any person who, during the exhibition of an audiovisual work, cinematographic in an exhibition facility used to exhibit cinematograph films or audiovisual recordings and without the written authorization of the copyright owner, uses any audiovisual recording device to knowingly make or transmit or attempt to make or transmit or abet the making or transmission of a copy or visual recording or sound recording embodying a cinematograph film or audiovisual recording or any part thereof or a copy of sound recording accompanying such cinematograph film or audiovisual recording or any part thereof during subsistence of copyright in such cinematograph film or sound recording, shall be punishable with imprisonment not exceeding three years and shall also be liable to fine not exceeding Rs.10 Lakhs, or to a term of imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years or both.”

The Cinematograph Act, 1952 is available on MIB website, i.e. <https://mib.gov.in/> << Documents << Acts & Rules and can be directly accessed on the following URL: <https://indiacode.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/2170/3/A1952-37.pdf> .

MIB solicits comments from General Public on the Draft Cinematograph Act (Amendment) Bill by 2nd February, 2019.

The comments may be submitted at the following email address: jsfilms.inb@nic.in .

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

Joint Secretary (Films)
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