

## Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024

### Why in news?

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India has notified the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024 in accordance with the Cinematograph (Amendment) Act, 2023.

### Status of India's film industry

- The Indian film industry produces over 3,000 films annually in more than 40 languages, showcasing its vast reach and diversity.
- The largest film industry in India is the *South Indian film industry* that holds about 47% share of the total films produced.
- In 2020, the Indian film industry generated over 183 billion Indian rupees from over 1,800 movies
- The Hon'ble Prime Minister envisions India as a *global content hub*, leveraging its rich heritage and cultural diversity.
- Indian Cinema is recognized for promoting Indian culture, society, and values globally, contributing to India's soft power.

### What are the key aspects of Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024?

Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024	
Key aspects	About
<b>Aim</b>	To streamline and modernise the film certification process for the digital age, keeping pace with the emerging technologies and advancement in the film sector
<b>Comprehensive revision</b>	<i>Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983</i> have been comprehensively overhauled in order to improve and contemporize the entire process of certification of films for public exhibition.
<b>Online certification process</b>	It is adopted to enhance transparency, efficiency, and ease of doing business for the film industry.
<b>Time-effective</b>	Implementation of <i>complete digital processes</i> is to eliminate transactional time and reduce the time taken for film certification.
<b>Accessibility features</b>	Movies/feature films to have accessibility features for certification to make it inclusive for disabled persons, as stipulated in the guidelines issued in this regard from time to time.
<b>Age- based certification</b>	The UA category is classified into <i>UA+</i> , <i>UA13+</i> and <i>UA16+</i> , these would serve as recommendations for parents or guardians to decide whether the content is suitable for their children.
<b>Women representation</b>	Ensuring greater representation of women in the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) Board and Advisory Panels, with one-third of the members on the Board being women, and preferably half on the Panels.

<b>Priority screening</b>	It is provided to expedite the certification process in case of urgency felt by filmmakers due to prior commitments, this would enhance transparency and promote ease of doing business.
<b>Perpetual validity of certificates</b>	Removal of the restriction on the validity of certificates for only 10 years for perpetual validity of CBFC certificates
<b>Recertification for TV broadcast</b>	Recertification of the edited film for Television broadcast, as only Unrestricted Public Exhibition category films can be shown on television.

## What lies ahead?

- The age based certification will play a crucial role in balancing the need to protect vulnerable audiences, such as children, with the principles of *freedom of expression* and *consumer choice*.
- The recent rules reflect a comprehensive effort to address the evolving needs of the film industry, considering advancements in technology, audience demographics, and content distribution methods.
- The updated regulations aims to support the growth and success of Indian cinema by fostering *efficiency, transparency and inclusivity*.

## Quick facts

<b>Central Board of Film Certification</b>	
• <b>Statutory body-</b>	CBFC regulates the public exhibition of films under the provisions of the <b><i>Cinematograph Act 1952</i></b> .
• <b>Ministry-</b>	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
• <b>Launch year-</b>	1951.
• <b>Headquarters-</b>	Mumbai.
• <b>Composition-</b>	The Board consists of a <i>Chairman and non-official members</i> .
• <b>Appointment-</b>	All the members are appointed by the Central government.
• <b>Regional offices-</b>	CBFC has <i>9 regional offices</i> at Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore, Thiruvananthapuram, Hyderabad, New Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati.
• <b>Advisory panel-</b>	The regional offices are assisted in the examination of films by advisory panel.
• <b>Appointment of panels-</b>	The members of the panel are nominated by the Central government by drawing people from different walks of life for a period of 2 years.
• <b>Public exhibition of movies-</b>	Films can be publicly exhibited in India <i>only after they have been certified by the Central Board of Film Certification</i> .

## References

1. [The Hindu- Centre notifies cinematograph certification rules](#)
2. [PIB- Cinematograph \(Certification\) Rules, 2024](#)
3. [CBFC- About CBFC](#)



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