

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

Dated: 17th March, 2023

ORDER

Subject: Blacklisting of Shri Santanu Ganguly – reg.

WHEREAS it has come to the notice of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting that an individual named Mr. Santanu Ganguly (Email: **santanugangopadhyay@gmail.com**; **Mobile Number: +919818649854**) has been misleading various film festival organizers across the country by claiming to be connected to this Ministry and charging money from the Film Festival Organizers in lieu of facilitation for permission of exemption of films from the provisions of certification for their screening in film festivals;

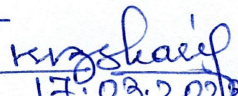
2. **AND WHEREAS**, Mr. Ganguly has also been found to be inquiring about the status of many such proposals received by the Ministry even though he is not connected to them;

3. **AND WHEREAS**, Mr Ganguly in the recent past i.e. on 30.12.2022 had forwarded an email to a film festival organiser, namely M/s Rigger House LLP, Mumbai-93, raising a bill of Rupees 40,000 only therewith to arrange the exemption order from the Ministry for the film VADHANDHI screened in the Prasad Film Lab in Chennai, Tamil Nadu on 15.12.2022 (email enclosed);

4. **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 without charging any fees;

5. Now, **THEREFORE**, the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting taking cognizance of the fraudulent activities done by Mr Ganguly hereby blacklists him. No application for exemption of films from the provisions of certification for their screening in Film Festivals received from him will be entertained in future. Film Festival organisers of the country including foreign embassies based in India are also cautioned to take care while dealing with a tout/intermediary/fraudulent person like Mr Ganguly.

6. This is issued with the approval of the Competent Authority in the Ministry.


17.03.2023

(Md. Zahid Sharif)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Tele: 011-23382487

All Film Festival Organizers/Organizations/Individuals concerned

Copy to:

Mr. Santanu Ganguly, Email: santanugangopadhyay@gmail.com; Mobile - 9818649854