Dear Madam / Sir,

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Ministry) has recently proposed amending and inserting Section 7(4) of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 as per a notice dated 3rd January 2019. We, the Indian Music Industry aka IMI, on behalf of our Members, seek to make certain remarks. IMI represents the business and trade interest of recorded music companies on a pan-India basis. We are affiliated with the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI), an organisation that represents the interests of the recording industry worldwide. At the onset, IMI appreciates the Ministry’s recognition of the losses caused by piracy to the film industry and government exchequer.

The IMI suggests the deletion of the term ‘audiovisual’ in the phrase ‘... uses any audiovisual recording device....’ in the proposed Section 7(4). Such an amendment would broaden the scope of the recording devices which abet film piracy.

IMI would welcome an opportunity to make an in-person representation before the Ministry. IMI congratulates the Ministry for taking a positive step towards checking the growth of piracy in India. A check on piracy will only lead to the growth of the creative copyright industry.

Yours faithfully,

Blaise Fernandes