

Date :

To,

**Subject : About not issuing a certification to the Hindi film
'Kedarnath' which is about to be released**

Dear Sir,

The 'trailer' and 'teaser' of the Hindi film 'Kedarnath' which is about to be released have been publicised recently. On the basis of what has been shown in them, it appears that the sole purpose of the film is selfish and harmful to society, as its purpose is to garner the publicity by creating controversy and thus, earn money through the box office. Certain observations about the film are narrated ahead -

1. This film is based not only on the incident of great flood occurred at the pious pilgrim centre of Hindus 'Kedarnath' in 2013 but also the imaginary love-story.

2. In this love story, the role of a 'Mansoor' a Muslim horseman is played by actor Sushant Singh Rajput; whereas, a young girl's role is done by actress Sara Ali Khan. Presently, the inter-religious marriages are not approved in Indian society. Both Hindu and Muslim communities are against these. Such marriages take place in exceptional circumstances' and they also create controversies. In the Muslim community, the incidents of honour-killing of girls involved in such marriages are witnessed many times. Therefore, it is essential to take care in depicting such sensitive issues which attract the attention of society; and avoid the creation of any further controversies in society. However, the 'trailer' shows that scenes are shot where such controversial incidents are shown, leave alone taking care to avoid them.

3. Presently, a wrong precedent is observed in the film industry in which the controversies are purposefully created before the release of the film, publicity is garnered through such controversies and then encashed it in a box office. The film 'Kedarnath' is also no exception to this. At present, Indian society is facing a grave problem in the form of 'Love-jihad'. This clearly means entangling Hindu girls in false love by the Muslim youth by alluring them, creating falsehood, deceit; sexual exploitation by making girls consuming intoxicating drinks and later marrying them to convert them into Islam religion. Several thousand Hindu girls have fallen victim to love jihad so far. Although the film does not depict any such script, the love story between a Muslim youth and Hindu Girl has been shown. This is a sort of promoting love-jihad.

Some so-called progressives and rationalists make propaganda that misleading stories are spread in the name of Love jihad. However, The Kerala High court conceded the existence of Love-jihad phenomenon. Similarly, the former Kerala Chief Minister Achuthanandan of Communist (Not the Hindutvavadi) party had agreed that more than 2,000 girls have been found missing in Love jihad phenomenon.

4. Even the dialogues in the trailer of the film are serious. For example, the family members have been shown opposed to the love affair between actor and actress. The father of the girl is shown saying, 'This confluence will not take place, even if a great calamity occurs'. The actress Sara Ali Khan replies 'I will chant (Pray) that calamity should occur'. Thus, the producer of the film tried to depict the great flood in Kedarnath was due to rejecting the love affair. In fact, faithful Hindus believe that God caused the flood because of the rise in unrighteousness in Kedarnath area. Thus it is totally wrong to depict that the calamity occurred because the rejection of love affair between Muslim youth and Hindu girl and deserves the strongest protest.

5. The tagline of the film is 'Love is a pilgrimage'. The love for God and love in a love affair are two different aspects; this is not difficult to comprehend. However, even this tagline has purposefully

denigrated the pilgrim centre. Are the pilgrimages and pilgrim centres are meant for love affairs ? This goes to show what message the producers of the film want to convey.

6. Hindus had never objected to any other films based on love stories. However, to use Hindus' religious festivals, temples and religious places for filming love affairs means conveying a wrong message to society, and therefore, needs to be protested.

7. Every time, inappropriate things about Hindus' religious traditions, Deities, Saints, etc. are depicted in the films. The producers are under the impression that Hindus who are tolerant will not take any action irrespective of the opposition they may show. However, if the religious sentiments of Muslims and Christians are hurt, the Central Board of Films Certification and Government take immediate action. Many such examples are given ahead.

A. The Tamil Nadu Government banned the film 'Vishwarupam' which hurt the religious sentiments of Muslims.

B. The Goa Government banned the film 'The Da Vinci Code' which hurt the religious sentiments of Christians.

C. In the film 'Kamal Dhamal Malamal', a Christian priest was seen to be organising a marriage of a dog. After the film was released, the Christians opposed it. The film was called back and the incident was censored before releasing the film again.

D. In the film by Akshay Kumar 'Entertainment', the name of comedian-actor Johnny Lever was 'Abdulla'. This name is considered as pious in Islam. Since an objection was raised that many jokes were cracked in the film on this name, Censor Board had asked the producers to change the name of the actor itself.

The above examples are only of representative nature. However, despite any amount of opposition for misusing Hindus' Deities and Dharma, neither the Censor Board nor the Government take any stand. The situation has come to the pass that if anybody wished to trample the sentiments of Hindus, he can do so without facing any reaction. It is the forgotten past that the film becomes a hit and also earns a lot of money on the qualities of the script, dialogues, acting, music, etc. Now, the fact is witnessed that a film is produced by creating controversies, hurting the religious sentiments of Hindus and assaulting the traditions of Dharma; garner the publicity and encash it on box office. This has become the most immoral practice of the producers.

By taking objections on the script and few scenes in the film 'Kedarnath', local devotees has held agitation opposite the District Headquarters in Rudraprayag. While local devotees agitated in Saterakhal and surrounding areas, they also burnt the effigies of hoardings, director, hero and heroine of the film. The agitations have started all over the country over the film. The priests in Kedarnath temple have also demanded the imposition of a ban on the film.

Therefore, we are raising demands as given ahead -

1. The Censor Board should impose a ban on the film before the outbreak of public sentiments.

2. The film should not be granted certification till the controversial scenes are deleted from the film, and the film is exhibited to the delegation of the Hindu organisations or religious authorities of Hindus.

3. The Central Board of Films Certification should draft a code of procedures for preventing the wrong depiction of Hindus' temples, seats of faith, Scriptures and Deities through the medium of films.

4. The tagline of the film 'Love is a pilgrimage' should be changed.

If the film is granted certification without fulfilling the above demands, the Central Board of Films Certification will be responsible for any public outrage over the film.

Yours Faithfully,

Contact :