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PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Government Notifications

L.D.B.4/2006

NATIONAL FILM CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

ACT, No. 47 of 1971

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Cultural Affairs under Section 61 and Section 5 of the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka Act No.47 of 1971 as amended by Act No. 45 of 1980.

MAHINDA YAPA ABEYWARDENA
Minister of Cultural Affairs.

Colombo,
25th May 2007.

Regulations

1. These Regulations may be cited as the National Film Corporation (Licensing of Cinemas) Regulations No. 1 of 2007 and shall come into operation with effect from 01st of July 2007.

2. Any person who being the owner, proprietor or lessee of a cinema in Sri Lanka, shall not exhibit any film in such cinema, except under the authority of a license issued in that behalf by the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka (hereinafter referred to as the "Corporation").
- 3 (1) Any owner, proprietor or lessee of a cinema who intends to exhibit any film in such cinema shall make an application for a licence to the Chairman of the Corporation (hereinafter referred to as the "Chairman") in the relevant form obtainable from the Corporation ;
 - (2) If the Chairman is satisfied in respect of the quality of the technical standards, sanitary facilities and viewing facilities provided for the audience, in the cinema, in respect of which the application has been made under paragraph (1), he shall approve the issuance of a licence to the applicant subject to such terms and conditions specified in such licence and on payment of a fee specified in the Schedule hereto. The Chairman shall dispose of the application made under paragraph (1) within thirty days from the date of receipt of such application ;

- (3) Any applicant aggrieved by the decision of the Chairman may appeal to the Minister within two weeks from the date of receipt of the decision of the Chairman ;
- (4) The Minister may vary or confirm the decision of the Chairman and the decision of the Minister shall be Communicated to the applicant.

4. Any person who obtains a licence under these regulations (hereinafter referred to as the “licensee”) shall comply with conditions imposed by the Chairman and specified in the reverse of the licence, regarding technical standards, sanitary facilities and the viewing facilities to be provided in the cinema.

5. (1) A licence issued under these regulations shall be renewable once a year.

(2) Renewal of the licence may be refused by the Chairman -

- (a) if the licensee fails to maintain the technical standards, the sanitary facilities and viewing facilities to be provided for the audience in the cinema, in respect of which the licence is issued under these regulations compliance with the conditions imposed by the Chairman under Regulation 4 ;
- (b) if the licensee fails to pay the rates and charges, due to the Corporation under the National Film Corporation (Miscellaneous Fees) Regulations, No 4 of 2007.

(3) The reason for the refusal to renew the licence shall be communicated to the licensee ;

6. Every licensee shall use in the cinema in respect of which the licence is issued under these regulations, only the tickets and daily statements purchased from the Corporation and such daily statements shall be remitted to the Corporation on a daily basis.

7. (1) The display of any cut out of any actor or of any scene from any film around a cinema shall be subject to the prior approval of the Chairman, given after inspection by an officer authorized in that behalf by the Chairman.

(2) Any cut out displayed without the prior approval of the Chairman, may be removed, for reasons assigned, and the expenditure incurred by such removal shall be recovered from the relevant licensee.

8. Every licensee shall exhibit, in the cinema in respect of which a licence is issued under these regulations, only the films released by the relevant Exhibiting Circuit.

Provided however, a licensee may exhibit a film released by an Exhibiting Circuit other than the relevant Exhibiting Circuit, subject to the prior approval of the Chairman, obtained in that behalf.

9. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires-

“Film” means a local or foreign film.

“National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka” means the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka established under the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka Act, No. 47 of 1971 as amended by Act No. 45 of 1980.

SCEHEDULE

The licence fee referred to in regulation 3 (2) shall be Ten Thousand Rupees (Rs. 10,000).

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L.D.B.4/2006

NATIONAL FILM CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

ACT, No. 47 of 1971

Regulations made by the Minister of Cultural Affairs under Section 61 and Section 5 of the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka Act No.47 of 1971 as amended by act No. 45 of 1980.

MAHINDA YAPA ABEYWARDENA
Minister of Cultural Affairs.

Colombo,
25th May 2007.

Regulations

1. These Regulations may be cited as the National Film Corporation (Distribution of Films) Regulation No. 2 of 2007 and shall come into operation with effect from 01st of July 2007.

2. (1) There shall be established five Exhibiting Circuits in order to regulate the distribution of films within Sri Lanka.
- (2) Such Exhibiting Circuits shall be designated as Circuit No. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.
- (3) The Chairman of the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka (hereinafter referred to as the "Chairman") may determine from time to time the cinemas which come under each Exhibiting Circuit.
3. Every such Exhibiting Circuit shall be a company incorporated under the Companies Act, No. 17 of 1982 (hereinafter referred to as the "Company") and the Board of Directors of such company shall be inclusive of five members as the following:
 - (a) two members nominated by the owners of cinemas coming under such Exhibiting Circuit ;
 - (b) a member from Film Producers' Association ;
 - (c) a member from Film Directors' Association ;
 - (d) a member appointed by the Chairman ;
4. (1) Every Company which fulfils the requirements specified in regulation 3 and in charge of distribution of films to the cinemas shall make an application for a licence to the Chairman, in the relevant form obtainable from the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka (hereinafter referred to as the "Corporation") to enable it to commence distribution of films or to continue the service of distribution of films ;

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- (2) The Chairman shall consider the application for a licence made under paragraph (1), having regard to the experience and prior conduct of the applicant Company as a distributor of films when relevant.
- (3) If the Chairman is satisfied that the Company making an application under paragraph (1) has all the necessary requirements, he shall approve the issuance of a licence to the applicant Company on the payment of the fee specified in the Schedule hereto. The Chairman shall dispose of the application made under paragraph (1) within thirty days from the date of the receipt of such application.
- (4) Any Company aggrieved by the decision of the Chairman may appeal to the Minister within two weeks from the date of receipt of the decision of the Chairman.
- (5) The Minister may vary or confirm the decision of the Chairman. The decision of the Minister shall be communicated to the Company;
- (6) A licence issued under these regulations shall be renewable once a year.

5. Every Company which obtains a licence under these regulations (hereinafter referred to as the “licensee”) shall be responsible to remit to the Corporation on a daily basis, the rates, fees and charges due and payable to the Corporation in accordance with the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka (Miscellaneous Fees) Regulation No 4 of 2007 from the cinemas coming under that circuit.

6. Every licensee shall release films only to cinemas which comes under the relevant Exhibiting Circuit. Provided however, in special circumstances, after obtaining the prior written approval of the Chairman, a film may be released for exhibition in a cinema or cinemas belonging to another Exhibiting Circuit.

7. Every cinema shall maintain the technical standards, sanitary conditions, facilities and environmental conditions stipulated by regulations made by the Corporation from time to time, and every licensee shall take steps to observe the adherence of such terms and conditions by such cinemas.

8. (1) Every cinema shall pay all fees, rates and charges due to the Corporation within six months from the date of the issuance of the licence.
- (2) Every licensee shall take steps to ensure the settlement of all fees, rates and charges from the cinemas.
- (3) Every cinema which default in paying any money due to the Corporation may be removed from the relevant Exhibiting Circuit by the Company in consultation with the Chairman.

9. (1) Every licensee shall ensure that Sixty per centum (60%) of the entire amount of films Exhibited by the relevant Exhibiting Circuit to be local films, and the balance be foreign films.

Provided however, that the licensee may make representations to the Chairman to make any modification in the aforementioned percentage, in special circumstances.

10. Every licensee shall duly purchase tickets and daily statements from the Corporation regarding the prices fixed by the Corporation for use in cinemas coming under such Exhibiting Circuit.
11. (1) Every licensee shall obtain the prior written approval of the Chairman and of the producer or supplier of a film, prior to the inaugural round of screening of any film, lined up for the screening in the Cinemas of such Exhibiting Circuit.

- (2) Notification in respect of the films lined up in the relevant Exhibiting Circuit, shall be given to the Chairman by the licensee, at least two months prior to the prospective dates of screening of such films.
- (3) The Chairman may direct the licensee, producer or supplier of the film to be screened, to furnish such documents of information, in order to ascertain whether the film has been certified by the relevant authorities as a suitable film to be screened within Sri Lanka.
- (4) If the Chairman is satisfied in respect of the documents or information required to be furnished under paragraph (3), he shall forthwith grant the approval to screen the film in the relevant Exhibiting Circuit.

12. Any licensee shall charge ten per centum (10%) of the proceeds of the sale of valid tickets as a commission in respect of the distribution of film to cinemas coming under the relevant Exhibiting Circuit.

13. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires-

“film” means a local or foreign film;

“inaugural round of screening” means the period of time for which the film is screened at a main inaugural centre;

“National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka” means the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka established under the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka Act, No. 47 of 1971, as amended by Act No. 45 of 1980.

Schedule

The licence fee referred to in regulation 4 (3) shall be Rupees Fifty Thousand (Rs. 50,000) per year.

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L.D.B.4/2006

NATIONAL FILM CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

ACT, No. 47 of 1971

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Cultural Affairs under Section 61 and Section 5 of the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka Act, No. 47 of 1971 as amended by Act No. 45 of 1980.

MAHINDA YAPA ABEYWARDENA
Minister of Cultural Affairs.

Colombo,
25th May 2007.

Regulations

1. These Regulations may be cited as the National Film Corporation (Importation of Cinematic Films) Regulations No. 3 of 2007 and shall come into operation with effect from 01st of July 2007.

2. No person shall import any cinematic films into Sri Lanka except under the authority of a license issued in that behalf by the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka (hereinafter referred to as the “Corporation”).
- 3 (1) Any person desirous of engaging in the importation of cinematic films shall apply for a licence to the Chairman of Corporation (hereinafter referred to as the “Chairman”) in the relevant form obtainable from the Corporation ;

- (2) If the Chairman is satisfied in respect of the competence of the applicant to import cinematic film, he shall approve the issuance of a licence to the applicant, subject to such terms and conditions specified in such licence and on payment of a fee specified in Part “A” to the Schedule hereto. The Chairman shall dispose of the application made under paragraph (1) within thirty days from the date of receipt of such application;
- (3) Any applicant aggrieved by the decision of the Chairman may appeal to the Minister within two weeks from the date of receipt of the decision of the Chairman ;
- (4) The Minister may vary or confirm the decision of the Chairman and the decision of the Minister shall be communicated to the applicant.
- (5) Such licences issued under these regulations shall be renewable once every year.

4. Any person (hereinafter referred to as the “importer”) who obtains a licence for the import of cinematic films shall adopt the following procedure before the screening of any films so imported:

- (a) The approval of the Chairman shall be obtained beforehand in regard to the suitability of such cinematic film for screening to Sri Lanka viewers ;
- (b) The importer shall send all such cinematic films imported into Sri Lanka to the Committee recommended by the Chairman to determine their suitability for screening in Sri Lanka ;
- (c) Every such cinematic film shall be sent in a VCD, DVD or VHS or such other suitable format to enable such Committee referred to in (b) above, to view such cinematic film ;
- (d) The Committee shall, after viewing such cinematic film, issue a certificate as to whether the cinematic film is suitable or not for screening in Sri Lanka ;
- (e) The importer shall pay the fees determined under Part B of the Schedule hereto to defray the costs incurred in providing facilities for the Committee to view the cinematic film, and for the issue of the Certificate referred in paragraph (d) ;
- (f) After the issue of such certificate referred to in paragraph (d) above, the cinematic film together with copies thereof, shall be delivered to the safe custody of the Corporation;
- (g) The importer shall pay the fees determined under Part C for safe keeping of the cinematic film in the custody of the Corporation, till the dates for screening in the cinema theatres;
- (h) The Corporation shall issue a Certificate regarding the quality of the cinematic film for screening, before the release of such film;
- (i) The importer of the cinematic film shall pay the fees determined in Part D of the Schedule hereto for the issue of the certificate referred to in (h) above, before the release of the cinematic film by the Corporation for screening;
- (j) Cinematic films released by the corporation with the certificates referred to in paragraph (d) and (h) should be released immediately for screening in the cinema theatres in any Exhibition Circuit established under regulation No.2 of 2007, Sri Lanka Film Corporation (Distribution of Films);
- (k) Every cinematic film imported into the country shall immediately after the screening of such cinematic film be returned to the country of production or destroyed under the supervision of the Corporation;

5. Unless the context requires otherwise,

“Cinematic Film” shall mean an imported cinematic film.

“National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka” means the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka established under the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka Act, No. 47 of 1971 as amended by Act No. 45 of 1980.

SCEHEDULE

Part ‘A’

The fee referred to in regulation 3 (2) shall be Twenty five Thousand Rupees (Rs. 25,000)

Part ‘B’

The fee referred to in regulation 4 (e) shall be Two Thousand Rupees (Rs. 2,000)

Part ‘C’

The fee referred to in regulation 4 (g) shall be Two Hundred Rupees (Rs. 200)

Part ‘D’

The fee referred to in regulation 4 (i) shall for a reel be

- (1) in respect of a cinematic film 1000 feet long, Two Hundred and Fifty rupees (Rs. 250) ;
- (2) in respect of a cinematic film 2000 feet long, Five hundred rupees (Rs. 500).

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