

suitable for public exhibition; the question of scrutinising news reels from any other point of view does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

Shri K. K. Basu: Is Government aware of the fact that news reels are meant for the propagation of news and that certain news reels which are shown by the American Paramount News agency regarding the behaviour of the American troops towards the Korean prisoners of war completely contradict the statement made by our representatives in that area?

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir; not so far as we are aware.

Shri K. K. Basu: In view of the fact that the news agencies are meant for the propagation of news, does the Government propose to scrutinise the news value before they are ready to be exhibited?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir; our discretion in this regard is limited by the fundamental rights, freedom of speech and expression. Subject to that we have issued directives under specific categories. The directive has been issued by the Board for the guidance of its examining committee.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: In view of the guiding rules which have been given to the Film Censor Board, one of the rules being that nothing should be passed which is detrimental to the relations among friendly Powers and also that the news should be of an unbiased character, is it not a fact that many of the news reels on Korea, that have been shown and are being shown by the Paramount News agency glossing over the atrocities committed by the Americans, are wholly biased and put the blame on the prisoners that they have behaved in a bad way?

Shri Karmarkar: I could not say about individual pictures, but to the extent to which the rules are offended, to that extent excisions are made.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know how the Fundamental Rights clause of the Constitution applies to these news agencies as they are foreigners?

Shri Karmarkar: Our Fundamental Rights apply to all operations inside India, and since this question relates to films being shown in India they apply.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: It says citizens.

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

CALCUTTA RADIO STATION

***1202. Shri Sadhan Gupta:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the respective ranges of reception of the 300-metre and 447·8-metre medium wave transmitters of the All India Radio, Calcutta; and

(b) the cost of installing the 447·8-metre transmitter?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The day time service range of 300 metre transmission from Calcutta is about 83 miles. The transmission can be satisfactorily heard at night up to a distance of about 400 miles.

The service range of the 447·8 metre medium wave transmission is about 20 miles.

(b) An old short wave transmitter available at the Station was converted for medium wave working. Estimated cost of installation is Rs. 2,000.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether the same service is radiated on the 300 metre and the 447·8 metre transmitters and, if so, why was the 447·8 metre transmitter installed?

Shri Karmarkar: It was installed to take advantage of the particular wave length. If we had not exercised that right, the right would have lapsed.

TEA (PRODUCTION COST)

***1203. Shri K. P. Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what was the cost of production per pound of tea in 1952-53 and in 1953-54?

(b) What were the steps taken by Government to reduce the cost of production during the last tea crisis?