

NEWS REEL AND DOCUMENTARY
PICTURES (APPROVAL)

*2281. **Shri N. S. Jain:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) what is meant by 'Approved Film' in case of Documentary and News Reel pictures;

(b) what is the constitution of the body which gives the Approval Certificate;

(c) how many such films were produced by private enterprise during the last four years which have been given Certificates of Approval;

(d) whether it is the policy of Government to encourage private producers to produce such films; and

(e) whether there are any rules for the News Reel and Documentary films produced abroad to obtain such Approval Certificates before they are exhibited in India and if not, why not?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) An 'Approved Film' is a film approved by the Government of India or a State Government for the purpose of the condition in cinema licences requiring the exhibition of a specified footage of such films.

(b) Government of India grant Approval Certificates on the recommendations of the Film Advisory Board.

(c) Government of India have granted Approval Certificates in respect of 9 films produced by private producers. Information about the number of Approval Certificates granted by State Governments is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) There are no separate rules for films produced abroad, each film, whether Indian or foreign, is considered on merits.

DOCUMENTARIES (COST OF PRODUCTION)

*2282. **Shri N. S. Jain:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of production per foot of 35 mm. and 16 mm. films respectively of documentaries produced by the Film Division of the Ministry during the last four years;

(b) the cost of production per foot of 35 mm. and 16 mm. films of news reviews respectively produced by the Films Division of the Ministry during last four years; and

(c) whether Government invited private producers to supply documentaries to Government during the last three years, if so, when and what were the rates offered to them per foot?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). The Films Division produces films only in 35 mm.; 16 mm. copies are made by reduction from 35 mm. The cost of production of documentaries varies between Rs. 10 and Rs. 25 per foot, depending upon the nature of the subject and involving shooting in various parts of the country. The cost of production of news reels is about Rs. 10 per foot.

(c) Yes, Sir. The rates offered ranged between Rs. 8 and Rs. 15 per foot.

SLEEPERS FOR HIRAKUD

*2284. **Shri R. N. S. Deo:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) (i) whether it is a fact that order for inferior quality of Deogar sleepers were placed for Hirakud with one Sri Jawaharlal Bhalla, a supplier from Punjab, though good quality Sal wood sleepers are available in Sambalpur and in other parts of Orissa;

(ii) if the answer to (i) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the quantity, total value and rate of the sleepers; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Executive Engineer Store Division Sri Goel is closely related to the supplier and that he himself went to the supplying station in Punjab at Government expense to pass those sleepers?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) (i) and (ii). An order for 24,000 sleepers for the Hirakud Dam Project was placed with the East Punjab Government through the State Forest Department who had a rate contract for supply of timber to Government Departments. The supplies were arranged by the Forest Department through Messrs. Jawahar Lal Bhalla, one of the forest lessees at Jagadhari. For full details of the matter including the quantity obtained and rates paid, I would refer the hon. Member to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1517 put by Shri S. N. Sinha, on the 4th October 1951.

(b) Government have no information regarding the relationship of Shri Goel and the supplier; the matter is being looked into. Shri Goel was deputed to Jagadhari in response to the request of the Conservator of Forests, Punjab who desired that a representative of Hirakud Organisation should be sent to select the timber. Under the advice of the Conservator of Forests and with the help of one of his officers, Shri Goel selected the timber and gave instructions for its despatch.

DAMAGE TO COFFER DAM

*2285. **Shri R. N. S. Deo:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Coffor Dam constructed at Hirakud for diverting the stream of the river for facility of work during the rainy season has been washed away during the first slight flood last month;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what was the total cost of the Coffor Dam and the total amount of damage done; and

(c) whether any machinery or other works were washed away or damaged as a result of the flood, and if so, the total amount of damage?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

ACCIDENT IN GUDUR MICA MINE

*2287. **Shri Raghavaiah:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) what was the cause of the explosion in Srinivasa Mica Mine in Chennur Village, Gudur Tehsil, Nellore District, Madras State on the 13th May, 1952 which resulted in the tragic death of two workers and serious injuries to a third worker;

(b) whether the families of the deceased have been paid any compensation;

(c) whether it is a fact that when, on the information given by the Gudur Division Mica Workers' Union, the Mica Inspector visited this mine, he detected 159 detonators in a cement pit inside the Mica Factory, a double set of wage-registers showing mutually contradictory entries regarding the men involved in the accident of the 13th May, and also found a deficit of 5,400 lbs. in the stocks and clear evidence of smuggling of huge quantities of Mica; and

(d) what steps do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) The explosion was caused by a drill rod encountering a misfired charge of Gelignite, while four drillers were drilling hole in a drive with a compressed air jack-hammer.

(b) Payment of compensation is governed by the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, which is administered by the State Government. The mine owner has admitted liability for payment of compensation. The Chief Inspector of Mines in India has already brought to the notice of the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation, Madras that dependents of the deceased and the injured persons should be paid compensation.

(c) The Mica Inspector is an officer of the State Government and we have asked for a copy of his report from the State Government. I should, however, mention that matters like deficit in stock, smuggling of mica fall in the sphere of the State Government, which will no doubt take necessary action. On receipt of the Inspector's report, we will look into all the matters which concern the Central Government.

(d) As the accident was, to a certain extent, found to be due to the incompetency of the manager of the mine, the Chief Inspector of Mines has cancelled his appointment as manager and has asked the mine management to appoint a duly qualified and experienced manager forthwith which has since been done. He has also sanctioned the prosecution of the owner, manager and shot-firer under the Mines Act, 1952, for contravention of certain provisions of the Act and the Regulations. As regards full and prompt payment of compensation, the Chief Inspector of Mines has already taken up the matter with the Commissioner, Workmen's Compensation, Madras.

HARIJAN DISPLACED PERSONS

581. **Shri Elayaperumal:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the total number of Harijan displaced persons who live in India?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): The Member is referred to my reply to part (a) of Unstarred Question No. 440 by Shri Rup Narain on 16th July, 1952.

MERCANTILE SHIPS

582. **Shri Badshah Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of mercantile ships of