

posal to the Government:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (Dr. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) The Prime Minister has received a memorandum signed by the Members of both the Houses of Parliament and has met a delegation of representatives of the Bhopal Gas Victims. In their memorandum, the Members of Parliament have inter alia urged the Government as follows:—

1. Take steps to ensure proper compensation to the victims.
2. Pursue the criminal prosecution of Union Carbide Corporation.
3. Ensure medical care and rehabilitation of the Victims.
4. Set up a National Commission on Bhopal.
5. To convene a Medical Committee to evaluate all data on injuries from the disaster and evolve guidelines for treatment and rehabilitation.
6. Laying down of adequate standards for protection from Industrial hazards in the country.

So far as compensation and criminal prosecution are concerned, all matters relating to these are presently sub-judice in the Supreme Court in the hearings on the petitions for review of the settlement of February, 1989. The Government is supporting the review petition. Medical care and rehabilitation is being provided by the

State Government, and Government of India have recently approved an Action Plan of Rs. 163.10 crores for rehabilitation of the Bhopal Gas Victims, which includes economic, social, environmental and medical elements. The concerned Government agencies are already undertaking the functions proposed for the National Commission. In regard to industrial hazards, these have been prescribed under the appropriate environmental protection statutes and will be enforced.

Report of Working Group on Film Policy

3180. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the report of the Working Group on the Film Policy appointed during 1978 has been received;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) Whether the Working Group has also recommended the formation of a Film Academy; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION IN BROADCASTING (KUMARJ GIRJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main features of the Report as reflected in its recommendations are given in the attached statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government is of the view that there would be no special advantages in having a new set up like Chalachitra Academy because the functions envisaged for such an Academy

are already being performed by the Directorate of Film Festivals, National Film Archives of India, Children's Film Society of India and National Film Development Corporation.

STATEMENT

The working group on National Film Policy headed by Dr. K. S. Karanth made in all 231 recommendations. Some of the comparatively important recommendations which have been implemented, partly implemented or implemented with modifications are briefly as follows.

Recommendation No. 25

NFDC should concentrate on its specific responsibility of financing good quality and artistic films. Artistic films should be given loan on liberal terms with low rates of interest. Conditions of collateral security should be relaxed and financial allocation should be considerably increased.

Recommendation No. 26

Regulation of film production is necessary only to the extent that there is need to discourage the entry of adventurers in film production, to ensure proper pre-planning and to prevent wastage of raw stock in inadequately planned projects. We are definitely against any measures involving prior scrutiny of scripts and pervasive control on the actual process of film making. We recommend that all film producers should be registered with the NFDC. While allocating raw stock the NFDC should take into account the previous production record of the producer, the state of planning including availability of script, financial plan, actual

shooting schedule and signed contracts along with clear indication regarding the availability of dates for main artistes and technicians.

Recommendation No. 40

NFDC should take initiative in standardising low cost theatre designs which can be straightway adopted by new entrepreneurs. For rationalising approach towards theatre construction two basic considerations should be kept in view i.e. mass production based on modular designs and the use of non-formal technology based on local conditions and materials.

Recommendation No. 42

Award winning films in regional languages do not get a national telecast. Doordarshan should arrange to obtain sub-titled prints from producers by paying the cost of sub-titling and make use of sub-titled prints available with the Directorate of Film Festivals. It should use simultaneous character generation techniques during transmission of films and paradubbing for TV centres meant for rural areas.

Recommendation No. 43

TV offers a very promising outlet for good films which has not been utilised in India. Doordarshan should provide a viable non-theatrical circuit for low budget good quality films. It should be obligatory for Doordarshan to telecast award winning films on all India circuit. Rates of payment for telecasting films should be suitably enhanced.

Recommendation No. 47

While giving loans for theatre construction, 25% option on playing time should be obtained by financing agencies for screening good films.

Recommendation No. 94

A downward revision of excise duty on prints should be undertaken.

Recommendation No. 120

The major expansion of developmental communication in future is likely to be through television. There should be close co-ordination between the Films Division and the Doordarshan for production of films and TV features for rural audience. The Films Division should also make short films particularly suited for telecast.

Recommendation No. 127

The scope of the scheme for compulsory exhibition of films should be enlarged to include all types of artistic short films, films of social relevance and even short fiction films.

Recommendation No. 128

Apart from the role of short films as medium of conveying social message, its status as a creative art form should be recognised. The purchase of short films from independent film makers by the Films Division should be increased and should cover not only message oriented films but all categories of artistic short films.

Recommendation No. 143

The basic policy objective of importing films should be to import films of artistic and technical achievements from all over the world. A secondary objective should be to allow import to the extent it is linked with export of Indian films.

Recommendation No. 144

(i) Import canalisation of feature films should continue and NFDC should remain the canalising agency.

A limited quota of imported films should be given to exporters or producer-exporters to import films from the countries to which Indian films are exported.

(ii) There should be an overall limit on the number of films to be imported. The films being imported from MPEAA sources should be substantially reduced and the import by NFDC and other agencies from other film making countries, including the Third World, should be increased.

(iii) Quality considerations should apply to the import of all films. Government should constitute a screening Committee consisting of film makers, film critics, representatives of Chalachitra Akademi, NFDC, Censor Board, and Ministry of I&B to preview films before import.

(iv) Import of art films for non-commercial exploitation and import of children's films should be primarily handled by the Chalachitra Akademi.

(v) The NFDC should continue to collect canalising charges on imported films except on non-commercial art films and children's films imported by the Chalachitra Akademi and its agencies. The canalising fee should be levied not on the C.I.F. value but on the market value of imported films.

Recommendation No. 147

Free import of short films under OGL should continue.

Recommendation No. 149

Canalisation of export of Indian feature films should continue as it has reduced malpractices, helped to monitor export markets and resulted in increasing the sale price per

film.

Recommendation No. 150

In addition to being a canaliser of export, the main function of NFDC should be promotion of exports. For this purpose NFDC should set up Regional Marketing Centres in important foreign markets for Indian films which should handle both import of foreign films and export of Indian films. These Centres should be staffed by a specialised cadre and provide help and advice to Indian exporters.

Recommendation No. 152

NFDC should create facilities in India for quality sub-titling in foreign languages to provide sub-titled prints of Indian films for export.

Recommendation No. 154

For exploitation of TV outlets abroad, it is necessary to concentrate on the artistic films from India. NFDC should help to prepare shorter versions of such films which can fit into TV slots. Export contracts should have a separate clause providing for additional payment if TV rights are exploited.

Recommendation No. 155

In addition to the Films Division, NFDC should also export short films which have a huge market on the foreign TV circuits.

Recommendation No. 158

The opportunity offered by India's International Film Festival for promoting export of Indian films should be properly utilised. Market section should provide facilities for marketing of Indian films by independent exporters. The expenditure of the Market Section should be met from

the canalisation charges collected by the NFDC.

Recommendation No. 160

The sale of video right for foreign buyers alongwith the export of Indian films should be allowed. NFDC should itself set up a pilot plant for transferring Indian feature films to video cassettes for export. In addition one or two manufacturers should be licenced for manufacture of video cassettes of Indian films exclusively for export.

Recommendation No. 163

Effort should be made to take full advantage of Cultural Agreements with foreign countries and the number of Film Weeks being organised in India and abroad should be substantially increased. Foreign film delegations should be brought in contact with the Indian film makers. Indian film makers should be included in the delegations which accompany Indian films to be presented as Films Weeks in foreign countries.

Recommendation No. 169

The Competitive International Film Festival of India does not provide any intrinsic advantage in terms of quality of films. promotion of Indian cinema interaction between film makers etc., over a non-competitive film festival. Even third world countries prefer to send their best films to competitive festivals in the West. India should, therefore, hold only a non-competitive film festival every year, on the lines of a 'Festival of Festivals'. Within this concept, a more systematic effort should be made to provide for a strong Third World representation.

Recommendation No. 177

The overall charter of the NFDC should be to help in the general development of the film industry and to particularly help in the development of good cinema in the country. NFDC should be a financially viable organisation but because of its developmental role, it should not aim at profit maximisation.

Recommendation No. 178

NFDC should specifically undertake the following activities :—

- (i) Financing of low budget good quality films and production of films of high artistic intent by commissioning deserving film makers.
- (ii) Development of distribution and exhibition facilities for films which it finances as also other good films.
- (iii) Financing of theatre construction preferably small theatres equipped with 16mm, with lien on a part of the playing time and directly owning or managing theatres wherever advisable and necessary.
- (iv) Registration of producers, studios and equipment hirers.
- (v) Encourage formation of film cooperatives for film production and exhibition.
- (vi) Canalising import of films, direct import of good quality films.
- (vii) Canalising export of films, research in export market, development of non-traditional markets, general promotion of export of films, special attention to the export of low budget good quality films in regional languages and export

of short films.

- (viii) Represent technology and equipment requirements of the industry to the Government and sponsor applications for import of equipment without canalisation. It should continue to canalise import of raw stock and regulate its distribution.
- (ix) Financial assistance to entrepreneurs engaged in indigenisation and manufacture of film equipment.
- (x) Development in sub-titling facilities for Indian films in foreign languages and foreign films in Indian languages.
- (xi) Loans for setting up and modernisation of studios, labs and other allied facilities.
- (xii) Coordination with State Film Development Corporations.
- (xiii) Helping the growth of proper representative organisations/associations of film industry.
- (xiv) Organisation of the International Film Festival of India and also specialised festivals for short films and marketing of films

Recommendation No. 189

Statutory pre-censorship of films should continue.

Recommendation No. 191

In Section 5 (B) (1) of the Indian Cinematograph Act which follows Article 19 (2) of the Constitution the words "The Sovereignty and integrity of India" appear to have been left out. The Act should be suitably amended.

Recommendation No. 194

Government should set up a Standing Tribunal to be headed by a person with judicial background to hear appeals against the decisions of the Censor Board.

Recommendation No. 195

An intermediary censor classification should be introduced which may be designated as "UJ". This will indicate that the film is approved for universal exhibition but contains material which the parents may not like children upto the age of 12 to see. This certificate will be purely advisory.

Recommendation No. 202

Considering the fact that Karnataka, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh are now producing a large number of feature films every year, there is need to set up Censor Board Offices in Bangalore, Hyderabad and Trivandrum. Similarly as and when film making activity expands in other regions, suitable expansion of the Censorship machinery should be considered.

Recommendation No. 206

To discourage violation of censorship, the Censor Board should maintain a video copy of the censored films and have a nucleus cell of enforcement staff to carry out spot checks. It must be a legal responsibility of the labs that except for the print required for censorship no other prints of a film are prepared until the film has been censored.

Recommendation No. 222

While the need for special legislation to regulate the working conditions of cine workers has been recognised since long, appropriate

legislation has still not been enacted. We recommend that the Central Government should take urgent steps to immediately introduce an appropriate legislation for regulating the employment conditions of cine workers.

Recommendation No. 225

Government should take steps to set up a Welfare Fund to help cine employees, artists and technicians in indigent circumstances. To finance this fund, the Government should collect an amount of Rs. 20 on every print of a feature film and make a matching grant out of its own resources.

[Translation]

Telecast of Serials on Rearing up of Children

3181. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Doordarshan to telecast serials on bringing up of children and creating congenial relations between husbands and wives and subjects related to scientific approach on social and personal problems; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) Doordarshan has approved a six parts T.V. Serial titled, "Baby Care" for telecast in the afternoon transmission. Doctors and Specialists of national and international fame have been involved in this serial to give their advice and practical hints in