

Funds for production of Bengali Films

3784. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the funds made available by the Film Finance Corporation for the production of Bengali films during the last two years;

(b) whether it is a fact that as compared to the Bombay-based film industry, the Bengali film industry is hard hit by finances; and

(c) if so, the steps which Government propose to take to ensure equitable distribution of funds to the Calcutta-based film industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI KUMAR UDEN M. JOSHI): (a) to (c). Production of films and their financing are in the private sector. Availability of finance to the Bombay based film industry appears to be substantially higher than to the Bengali film industry. Apparently, commercial considerations dictate investments by financiers in production of films. However, with a view to encouraging production of films of good quality and high artistic standard, Govt. set up Film Finance Corporation (FFC) in 1960 for providing financial and other assistance for the production of such films. Film Finance Corporation (FFC) was amalgamated with National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) on 11-4-1980. Financial assistance for film production is now given by NFDC. During the last two years, FFC sanctioned a loan of Rs. 3.50 lakhs for one Bengali film "Ashwamedher Ghora" and NFDC sanctioned loans of Rs. 5.48 lakhs for two Bengali films—Rs. 1.98 lakhs for "Yasnir Kolkatta" and Rs. 3.50 lakhs for "Radha Krishna". Film Finance Corporation (now National Film Development Corporation) set up a branch office in Calcutta to cater to the needs of the film producers from the eastern region.

The Corporation is trying to encourage production of Bengali films by extending financial assistance in deserving projects from that region. A regional script panel functions from Calcutta. The Corporation has finalised a collaboration arrangement with West Bengal Govt. for financing construction of low-cost theatres. In addition, the Corporation has recently decided to put up a 16 mm production infrastructure in Calcutta to boost the film industry in Bengal. The Films Division is also setting up a 16 mm production unit at Calcutta for one-hour feature films based on local interest or stories to cover entire eastern region.

जबलपुर में टेलीफोन केन्द्र

3785. श्री सुन्दर शर्मा : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या जबलपुर में छठी पंच-वर्षीय योजना में टेलीविजन विस्तार योजना के अधीन एक टेलीविजन केन्द्र स्थापित किया जायेगा ;

(ख) क्या इस बारे में कोई निश्चित प्रस्ताव है; और

(ग) टेलीविजन केन्द्र खोलने पर कितना व्यय होने का अनुमान है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (कुमारी कुमुदबेन एम० जोशी) :

(क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) जी नहीं ।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Allotment of diesel pumps to fisherman Cooperative Societies

3786. SHRIMATI SANYOGITA RANE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to allot diesel pumps to the fisherman co-