

Entertainment tax Exemption for Exhibition of Quality films

2790. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA:

SHRI R. N. RAKESH:

SHRI D. M. PUTTE GOWDA:

SHRIMATI SANYOGITA
RANE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government has asked all States and Union Territories to follow a uniform policy relating to entertainment tax exemption for exhibition of quality films, childrens' films and Archives films;

(b) if so, in how many States and Union territories these guidelines are implemented; and

(c) when will the rest of the States and Union territories follow suit?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c). In line with the recommendations of the Working Group on National Film Policy as endorsed by the State Information Ministers' Conference held in November 1980, the Union Government had recommended to the States and Union Territories that shows of childrens' films and archival films used by the recognised film societies should be exempted from entertainment tax. Almost all the States and Union Territories are now extending such exemptions. As regards Quality films, a scheme for issuing 'Quality' certificates to selected feature films is still to be introduced by the Government. Incidentally, exemption from entertainment tax is a State subject.

Progress of Electrification of Harijans Bastis and other left out Villages in Himachal Pradesh

2791. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress of electrification of Harijan bastis and other left out villages in the State of Himachal Pradesh, with the assistance from the Rural Electrification Corporation during the past three years including the current financial year, district-wise;

(b) whether any special drive has been launched for this purpose in the recent past;

(c) if so, the nature thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) to (c). Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) has sanctioned a scheme for electrification of 81 harijan bastis all of which have been electrified. Besides, REC has advised the State Electricity Board/State Govt. to ensure that in the case of the rural electrification schemes coming up for financial assistance wherever there is provision for street lights, harijan bastis adjoining the villages included under the schemes are electrified along with the main village. In regard to left out villages, REC has been sanctioning scheme exclusively to cover electrification of left out villages of already sanctioned schemes. REC has approved 5 schemes for loan assistance of Rs. 238.45 lakhs to cover electrification of left out villages. The details of these schemes including the names of districts are shown in the attached statement.

(d) Does not arise.