

(b) whether the said firm was doing this with the connivance of the personnel of Mining Department; and

(c) if so, whether Government would make an enquiry and punish those who are responsible for this loss ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI JAGANATH RAO) :** (a) to (c). Information is being collected from the State Government authorities and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

**PAYMENTS OF FILM ARTISTS THROUGH L. I. C. POLICIES**

**9229. SHRI ARJUN SINGH BHADORIA :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1112 on the 28th July, 1969 and state :

(a) whether Government have since considered the Memorandum submitted by the Film Producers' Guild of India regarding system of deferred payment of Film-Artists through Life Insurance policies in order to minimise the evil of unaccounted money; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon and the reaction of Government thereto?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) :** (a) and (b). The matter is still under consideration.

**EXCISE DUTY REALISED FROM FILM INDUSTRY**

**9230. SHRI JUGAL MONDAL :**  
**SHRI ARJUN SINGH BHADORIA :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of Excise duty collected annually during the last three years on Raw films; and the photo goods required by the film industry;

(b) the help given by Government to the Indian Film Industry by way of finance or relief on excise duty during the same period; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) :** (a) Raw films were subjected

to Central Excise duty for the first time with effect from 1-3-1969. The amount of duty realised during the month of March, 1969 was Rs. 59,000 and the amount of duty realised during the financial year 1969-70 was Rs. 9,69,000.

The expression "photo goods required by the film industry" is too wide in its scope permit a precise reply being given.

(b) The Film Finance Corporation set up in March, 1960, disbursed during the period ended December, 1969, loans amounting to Rs. 170.68 lakhs to the producers of 75 films.

With a view to giving relief to the film industry, particularly those producing low budget language films, the duty structure on exposed cinematograph films was revised with effect from 1-3-1969. In the case of films in black and white, the first 12 prints of each film cleared within 12 months immediately following the month of certification were completely exempted from duty. Relief varying from 1.2 paise to 30 paise per metre was given in respect of the higher slabs. All the prints cleared after 12 months immediately following the month of certification were completely exempted from duty. In the case of coloured films the rates were generally increased but a relief of 2.4 paise to 6 paise per metres was given in the case of the first 8 prints of every picture. With effect from 27-6-1969 relief varying from 6 to 60 paise per metre was given in the higher slabs. All prints of each film cleared after 12 months immediately following the month of certification were completely exempted from duty. Two statements showing the rates of duty on exposed cinematograph films in force from 1-3-1967 to date are laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. Lt-3465/70*].

(c) Does not arise.

**TOBACCO CULTIVATION IN GUJARAT**

**9231. SHRI K. N. PANDEY :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the areas in Gujarat State brought under tobacco cultivation during the year 1969; and

(b) the production of tobacco in this area during that period and the total amount of excise duty realised therefrom?