

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1355

ANSWERED ON:03.03.2000

PANEL FOR FILM FESTIVAL

KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU;RAVI PRAKASH VERMA;REENA CHOUDHARY

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

- (a) whether the recent International Film Festival held at New Delhi has depicted as a lack lustrefestival and scribes wanted `torture allowance` for coverage of such festivals;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the number of Indian films listed and exhibited therein in different categories and the number of Indian films found place amongst awardees;
- (d) whether the Government have decided to set up an Advisory Panel on film Festivals; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith terms of reference thereof and its composition?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT
(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

- (a) & (b) : While one newspaper item did describe the 31st International Film Festival of India as a `lack-lustre` festival and stated that `torture allowance` for coverage of such festivals should be given, the festival was by and large appreciated for its selection of films by film critics all over the country. It shall always remain the endeavour of this Ministry and of the Directorate of Film Festivals to procure some of the most outstanding films of the year for exhibition during the International Film Festival and thereby achieve the objective of promoting good cinema.
- (c) A total of 49 Indian films were exhibited under different sections of the festival. The Indian film titled `Karunam`, directed by Jayaraj shared the Golden Peacock Award for the Best Film by an Asian Director.
- (d) & (e): This ministry has constituted an Advisory Panel consisting of officials and non-officials under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for a term of one year with effect from 19.1.2000. The Panel has been set up in order to have a regular forum for consultation with film-makers, and industry representatives on the policies and programmes of the Directorate of Film Festivals. It will also advise the Directorate in the formulation of its policies and programmes and their implementation. The non-official members of the Panel are S/Shri Yash Chopra, Mani Ratnam, Bobby Bedi, Jahnu Barua, Ms Aparna Sen, and Ms. Ratnotma Sengupta.