

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3305  
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2003  
HUMILIATING CONDITIONS OF FAMILY OF DADASAHEB PHALKE  
RAM JEEVAN SINGH

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

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the distress and humiliating living conditions of the family of Dadasaheb Phalke;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have made any effort to know about the predicaments of the family;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to rescue the family from its sufferings?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (d): Shri Dada Saheb Phalke is considered the pioneer of Indian Cinema. The Dada Saheb Phalke Award has been instituted to commemorate his pioneering work in Indian Cinema. The circumstances of the family, as reported in the newspapers recently, have come to the notice of the Government. The National Film Development Corporation's (NFDC) assistance scheme is limited to living artists facing financial problems. NFDC has requested the Film Industry Associations/Trade Bodies in the Film Industry to extend all possible help to the family.