

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
(1978-79)**

(SIXTH LOK SABHA)

NINETIETH REPORT

FIFTH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

[Action taken by Government on the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee contained in their 16th Report (Sixth Lok Sabha) on paragraph 32 of the Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the year 1974-75, Union Government (Civil)]

Presented in Lok Sabha on— 29 AUG 1978
Laid in Rajya Sabha on— 29 AUG 1978



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PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

(1978-79)

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SECRETARIAT

1. Shri H. G. Paranjpe—*Joint Secretary.*
2. Shri T. R. Ghai—*Senior Financial Committee Officer.*

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, as authorised by the Committee, do present on their behalf this Ninetieth Report on action taken by Government on the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee contained in their Sixteenth Report (6th Lok Sabha) on Fifth International Film Festival commented upon in paragraph 32 of the Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the year 1974-75, Union Government (Civil).

2. On 31st May, 1978 an 'Action Taken Sub-Committee' consisting of the following Members was appointed to scrutinise the replies received from Government in pursuance of the recommendations made by the Committee in their earlier Reports:

1. Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao—*Chairman*.
2. Shri Asoke Krishna Dutt—*Convener*.

Members

3. Shri Gauri Shankar Rai
4. Shri M. Satyanarayan Rao
5. Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta
6. Shri Vasant Sathe

3. The Action Taken Sub-Committee of the Public Accounts Committee (1978-79) considered and adopted the Report at their sitting held on 18th August, 1978. The Report was finally adopted by the Public Accounts Committee (1978-79) on 24 August, 1978.

4. For facility of reference the conclusions/recommendations of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the body of the Report. For the sake of convenience, the conclusions/recommendations of the Committee have also been appended to the Report in a consolidated form.

5. The Committee place on record their appreciation of the assistance rendered to them in this matter by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India.

NEW DELHI;
August 24, 1978.
Sravana 2, 1900 (S).

P. V. NARASIMHA RAO,
Chairman,
Public Accounts Committee

CHAPTER I

REPORT

1.1. This Report of the Committee deals with the action taken by Government on the recommendations/observations of the Committee contained in their 16th Report (Sixth Lok Sabha) on 15th International Film Festival which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 17 November, 1977.

1.2. Action Taken Notes in respect of all the 14 recommendations contained in the Report have been received from Government* and these have been categorised as follows.

(i) *Recommendations/observations that have been accepted by Government.*

Sl. Nos. 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8.

(ii) *Recommendations/observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in the light of the replies received from Government.*

Sl. Nos. 11 and 13.

(iii) *Recommendations/observations replies to which have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration.*

Sl. Nos. 2, 9, 10, 12 and 14.

(iv) *Recommendations/observations replies to which Government have furnished interim replies.*

Sl. No. 4.

1.3. The Committee expect that final replies to those recommendations/observations in respect of which only interim replies have so far been furnished will be submitted to them, duly vetted by Audit, without delay.

1.4. The Committee will now deal with the Action taken by Government on some of their recommendations.

Loss of Original Draft Agreement Paras 1.46 and 1.48 Sl. Nos. 2 & 4)

1.5. Commenting on the loss of original draft of the agreement executed by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting with the private exhibitors the Committee in paras 1.46 (Sl. No. 2) and 1.48 (Sl. No. 4) of their 16th Report had observed:

“1.46. The original draft of the agreement executed with the private exhibitors and vetted by the Ministry of Law

*Action Taken Notes have not been vetted in Audit.

had been lost and in spite of best efforts made by the Directorate of Film Festivals who were responsible for custody of such important documents "it has not been possible to locate it."

****1.48.** The Committee are surprised to learn that the original draft agreement with the private exhibitors has been lost. The Ministry has contended that the agreements signed with the cinema owners were those agreements which were duly vetted by the Law Ministry. The Committee consider that the investigation into the loss of such an important document should be carried out conclusively and deterrent action taken against the defaulting officials and the Committee informed."

1.6. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in their Action Taken Notes both dated 15th July, 1978 have stated:

"1.46. The original draft of the agreement executed with the private exhibitors and vetted by the Ministry of Law could not be located in spite of best of efforts."

"1.48. The directions of the Committee have been noted for necessary action. The Committee will be informed in due course of the results of the investigations."

[Ministry of Information & Broadcasting O. M. No. 9/11/76-FED dt. 15-7-78]

1.7. It is distressing to note that the original draft of the agreement executed with the private exhibitors could not be located. The Committee feel that unusually long time has been taken to investigate the loss of draft agreement and take consequent follow-up action thereon. The Committee take a serious view of it. The Committee would urge the Government to expedite the investigations and fix responsibility so as to take deterrent action against the delinquent officials. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the remedial action the Government propose to take for the safe custody of such important documents.

Action Taken against delinquent officials (S. Nos. 9 & 10—Paras 1.53 and 1.54)

1.8. Commenting on the observations of the officer-in-charge of the commercial Cinema Houses the Committee in paragraphs 1.53 and 1.54 of their 16th Report had observed:—

"1.53. The Committee note that the Officer-in-charge of the commercial Cinema Houses made the following observa-

tions in the note submitted to the Ministry after the Festival was over:

'The Duty Officers posted in various cinema houses showed exemplary sense of duty and actually performed their functions assigned to them to ensure that no malpractices were indulged in by the cinema management.'

"1.54. The Committee are not able to share this unqualified praise for the Duty Officers posted in various cinema houses, for the inspection by the Officer-in-charge of commercial cinema houses had earlier revealed that the Management of one of the cinema houses had incorrectly informed the customers that the tickets had been sold out and it was only on the intervention of the Officer-in-charge that some more tickets were made available. In another case it was found by the Officer-in-charge that the sale of tickets for individual picture shows had been started much earlier than the specified date with the result that there were protests and demand for sale of more tickets for a popular picture by large number of customers who had gathered there."

1.9. To these observations, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in their Action Taken Note dated 15-7-1978 have replied:

"1.53. and 1.54. The Government shares the observations of the Committee. As already stated, explanations were called for from all the Officers put on duty at the commercial cinema and Government displeasure was communicated to nine of them for their lapses."

[Ministry of Information and Broadcasting O.M. No. 9/11/76
FED dt. 15-7-78]

1.10. The Committee note that Government's displeasure has been communicated to nine of the officers posted on duty at Commercial Cinema Houses. Nevertheless, the Committee would like to know the basis of unqualified praise for the duty officers by the officer-in-charge of the Commercial Cinema Houses. The Committee would like to be apprised as to how the note of the officer-in-charge stating that "the Duty Officers posted in various cinema houses showed exemplary sense of duty and actually performed their functions assigned to them to ensure that no malpractices were indulged in by the cinema-management" could be reconciled

with another note of the officer-in-charge in which various lapses on the part of some of the Duty Officers and malpractices indulged in by certain cinema managements were specifically mentioned. The Committee would also like to know the names and designations of the 9 officers, the nature of explanations given by them and the displeasure communicated to them.

Duties of officials (Para 1.56, S. No. 12)

1.11. Stressing the need of setting-out in greater details the duties and responsibilities of the officers posted to commercial cinema houses to obviate complaints from the public, the Committee in para 1.56 of their 16th Report had observed:

“The Committee stress that in future the duties and responsibilities of the officers posted to commercial cinema houses should be set-out in greater details and it should be obligatory for the officer-in-charge of the commercial cinema houses to see that the officers posted to various cinema houses in fact perform their duties meticulously and strictly so as to obviate complaints. In particular, they should check the counterfoils of tickets sold the same day and record a certificate to the effect in the daily collection statements to be furnished to the Directorate. The Committee need hardly point out that deterrent and strict action should be taken against any officer found to be deficient in the performance of the duties entrusted to him. The Committee feel that if the duties are probably set-out and performed, it would not only obviate complaints from the public but also make for proper and timely rendering of accounts and avoid any financial or other irregularities.”

1.12. In their action taken reply dated 15 July, 1978 the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting have stated:

“The suggestions of the Committee have been noted for compliance.”

[Ministry of I&B O.M. No. 9/11/76-FED dated 15 July, 1978]

1.13. The Committee wish that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting had been somewhat more responsive than merely stating that “the suggestions of the Committee have been noted for compliance”. The Committee would desire to be informed of the concrete action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government

in pursuance of their recommendation that duties and responsibilities of the officers posted at commercial cinema houses should be set out in greater detail to obviate complaints.

Publicity of Festival Films (Para 1.58—S. No. 14)

1.14. Urging the Government to prepare guidelines about the manner in which authentic information about background and artistic merits of each of the festival films should be publicised well in advance the Committee in para 1.58 of their 16th Report had observed:

“The Committee find that out of 532 shows held in the private cinema halls during the two weeks of the Festival only 191 shows (84 in the first week and 107 in the second week) ran to full capacity. This has been sought to be explained by the Ministry as due to some films being artistic but not very popular. It would appear that the publicity given to such films was not very adequate or properly directed. The Committee would like the Ministry to analyse the matter in detail and prepare guidelines about the manner in which authentic information about the background and artistic merit of each of the entered films is arranged to be publicised well in advance and suitably through leaf-lets, press, radio, television etc. so as to reach the potential audience.”

1.15. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in their Action Taken Note dated 15th July, 1978 have stated:

“Some films despite good and well organised publicity, do not attract sufficient audience or full houses. The lessons learnt during the organisation of the V International Film Festival of India as regards pre-publicity have however been noted by the Directorate. The suggestions of the Committee in this regard have also been noted for necessary action.”

[Ministry of Information and Broadcasting O.M. No. 9/11/76-FED dt. 15-7-1978]

1.16. The Committee are not impressed by the reply that “the suggestions of the Committee have been noted for necessary action”. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken to prepare detailed guidelines about the manner in which authentic information about the background and artistic merits of festival films would be publicised.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

Recommendation

The Committee note that ten cinema halls were hired by the Directorate of Film Festivals, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for a fortnight (30 December, 1974 to 12th January, 1975) on a weekly rental basis for exhibition of films from forty-six countries that participated in the Fifth International Film Festival held in New Delhi. The Audit paragraph and further material gathered by the Committee have brought to light a number of procedural and other lapses in the conduct of the Festival which, apart from causing some loss of revenue to Government, have given rise to avoidable criticism from the public.

[S. No. 1 (Para 1.45) of 16th Report of the Public Accounts Committee (6th Lok Sabha)]

Action taken

Observations of the Committee have been noted.

[Ministry of Information and Broadcasting O.M. No. 9/11/76-
FFD, dated 15-7-1978]

Recommendation

The Committee fail to understand how in spite of their experience of having held four International Film Festivals in the country, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting allowed such serious lapses to occur and invited public criticism.

[S. No. 3 (Para 1.47) of 16th Report of the Public Accounts Committee (6th Lok Sabha)]

Action taken

Organising an International Film Festival is a gigantic job involving enormous efforts besides huge manpower. There is a small permanent nucleus staff with the Directorate of Film Festivals for organising the Film Festivals. At the time of the actual Festival, large contingent of staff is pressed into service from various media units for specific duties. This staff may not be fully familiar with

this kind of work. There are, therefore, deficiencies which are inherent in the arrangement. The arrangements now envisage a greater training for this kind of staff for organising the Festivals in order that such lapses do not recur.

[Ministry of Information and Broadcasting O.M. No. 9/11/76-
FFD, dated 15-7-1978]

Recommendation

It was a serious lapse on the part of the Ministry not to have specified in the agreements the amount of rental payable by Government and the rebate allowed by the Cinema house owners—an omission which gave rise to many difficulties as mentioned in the Audit paragraph. The Committee have been informed on 10th March, 1977, that Government have since realised the amount of Rs. 40,552 which was due from the private exhibitors on 30th July, 1976.

[S. No. 5 (Para 1.49) of 16th Report of the Public Accounts Committee (6th Lok Sabha)]

Action taken

This omission has now been rectified and all agreements now carry the actual amount of rental payable, etc.

[Ministry of Information and Broadcasting O.M. No. 9/11/76-
FFD, dated 15-7-1978]

Recommendation

The Committee further hope that Government have drawn necessary lessons from their experience of the Fifth Film Festival and that care would be taken in future to specify the rentals payable by Government to the managements of cinema houses in the agreements arrived at with them and also to specify in unambiguous terms the concessions such as rebate etc. allowed by the exhibitors to Government.

[S. No. 6 (Para 1.50) of Appendix IV to 16th Report of the Public Accounts Committee (6th Lok Sabha)]

Action taken

These suggestions have been noted for compliance at the time of entering into similar agreements in future.

[Ministry of Information and Broadcasting O.M. No. 9/11/76-
FFD, dated 15-7-1978]

Recommendation

The Committee regret to note that while at Delhi the cinema houses were hired on rental basis, the usual practice of hiring theatres on income sharing basis was not reviewed at that time in the case of those at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Bangalore. As, according to the Ministry, hiring of cinema houses on a rental basis proved to be quite profitable to Government, the Committee need hardly point out that the same system may be followed in other cities also where the films of the Film Festival are exhibited.

[S. No. 7 (Para 1.51) of 16th Report of the Public Accounts Committee (6th Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The Cinema houses are now hired on rental basis in all the cities where the Film Festivals are organised.

[Ministry of Information and Broadcasting O.M. No. 9/11/76-FFD dated 15-7-1978].

Recommendation

The Committee further stress that the seating plans of each cinema house should be invariably incorporated in such agreements and in no case extra seats should be permitted to be provided without specific permission in writing of the Directorate/Ministry.

[S. No. 8 (Para 1.52) of 16th Report of PAC (6th Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The suggestion of the committee has been noted for compliance. In the existing agreement a clause that no extra chairs will be put inside the cinema hall without the prior written permission of the Directorate of Film Festivals has been incorporated.

[Ministry of Information and Broadcasting O.M. No. 9/11/76-FFD, dated 15-7-1978].

CHAPTER III

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN THE LIGHT OF THE REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

Recommendation

Besides, the Committee find that the Audit were not made available the individual reports which were required to be given by each of the officers posted at the cinema houses. The Committee would like the Ministry to review the performance of each of these officers critically and take suitable action for the lapses which are found.

[S. No. 11 (Para 1.55) of 16th Report of PAC (6th Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

In this connection, reply to sub-para IV of para 2(1.46) may kindly be seen.

[Ministry of Information and Broadcasting O.M. No. 9/11/76-FFD, dated 15-7-1978].

Recommendation

The Committee are not convinced that due to paucity of time and the volume of work involved, it was not possible for Government to get the tickets for the Festival films shown in private cinema houses, printed under their own supervision. The Committee consider that with all the experience gained over the years, it should have been possible for the Ministry to get this work done either in Government press or any other Press of proven standing and experience, preferably outside Delhi, to obviate any complaints.

[S. No. 13 (Para 1.57) of 16th Report of PAC (6th Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The Agreement for renting of Cinema was entered into with the Cinema-managements only on December 12, 1974 and the Festival was to commence on 29th December, 1974. As such it was really due to paucity of time and the volume of work involved that it was not found possible for the Directorate of Film Festivals to

get the tickets for the Festival films shown in private cinema houses, printed under their own supervision. It was under these circumstances the decision was taken that the tickets be printed by the Cinema managements as per design given by the Film Festival Directorate.

[Ministry of Information and Broadcasting O.M. No. 9/1', 76-
FFD, dated 15-7-1978].

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS/ OBSERVATIONS REPLIES TO WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND WHICH REQUIRE REITERATION

Recommendation

Some of the disquieting aspects of the case are:

- (i) The original draft of the agreement executed with the private exhibitors and vetted by the Ministry of Law had been lost and in spite of best efforts made by the Directorate of Film Festivals who were responsible for custody of such important documents, it has not been possible to locate it.
- (ii) Representatives of four out of the ten cinema houses hired by the Ministry did not attend the meeting held on 10th December, 1974 when the rentals quoted by them were stated to have been accepted subject to an *ad-hoc* rebate of 10 per cent. The cinema houses withheld a sum of Rs. 1.13 lakhs out of the daily collections on the ground that the minutes of the meeting were not correctly recorded. They contended that they had agreed only to a 5 per cent rebate and not to 10 per cent. The managements of four of the cinema houses also contended that rental quoted by them was in respect of three shows daily and not for four shows as recorded in the Minutes. Disputes also arose regarding the daily collection reports number of complimentary passes allowed to the cinema house owners, etc.
- (iii) One of the cinema houses exhausted all the tickets of popular films on the opening day itself and neither the proprietor nor the officials of the Ministry deputed to supervise the sale of tickets informed the officer-in-charge of private cinema houses about this when he visited the cinema on the following day. Some other cinema managements also reported having sold all tickets on the opening day. The management of yet another cinema withheld tickets for a film from the public saying that all tickets had been sold out. However, on persuasion of the officer-in-charge the management "agreed to release a few more tickets" for that particular film.

- (iv) A report in regard to the sale of tickets in each cinema house was required to be sent by the Officer of the Directorate posted there giving details of the number of tickets sold, collections made and the way in which tickets were actually sold by each cinema management. None of these Reports were made available to Audit. It is a moot point whether these Reports contained pertinent information about the difficulties of public who desired to purchase tickets etc. and the action, if any, which was taken in pursuance thereof.
- (v) The responsibility for printing and sale of tickets for cinema halls was left to the private exhibitors concerned even though a decision was taken earlier that "tickets for all cinema houses were to be printed preferably at a reliable press outside Delhi". No counterfoils of the tickets actually sold were made available by any of the private exhibitors when the matter was raised by Audit with the Ministry.
- (vi) The submission of seating plan showing the actual occupancy which could be checked up vis-a-vis the sale of tickets was not made a part of the agreement.

[S. No. 2 (para 1.46) of 16th Report of the Public Accounts Committee (6th Lok Sabha)].

Action Taken

- (i) The original draft of the agreement executed with the private exhibitors and vetted by the Ministry of Law could not be located in spite of best of efforts.
- (ii) The matter was discussed with the owners of Cinema Houses concerned and sum of Rs. 1.13 lakhs withheld by them from out of the daily collections has since been recovered.

It may, in this connection be stated that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th December, 1974 stated as under:—

"There shall be a rebate of 10 per cent on all the rates quoted for the hire of the cinema halls. The rates, thus reduced, shall notwithstanding anything to the contrary expressed earlier, be in respect of four shows daily."

- (iii) The matter was investigated. Explanations were called for from the concerned officers put on duty at the various commercial theatres. Government's displeasure was also communicated to nine officers who were on duty in the theatres from where complaints were received about malpractices.

- (iv) The reports relating to daily collections were shown to the audit but these could not be test-checked because of non-availability of counter-foils of tickets which could not be obtained from the Cinema houses, these having been destroyed by them. However, care will be exercised in future for the counter-foils being checked the same day by our officials to ensure that sales reports are authentic.
- (v) The printing of tickets was entrusted to the cinema exhibitors because besides it involving too much labour, there was little time left with the Directorate to undertake this job. The counter-foils of the tickets actually sold were not made available by the cinema owners these having been destroyed by them and as such could not be made available to the audit.
- (vi) The seating plan was obtained from the Cinema Houses though it did not form part of the agreement. In future it will be ensured that this is done.

[Ministry of Information and Broadcasting O.M. No. 9-11-76-FFD
dated 15-7-1978.]

Recommendation

1.53. The Committee note that the Officer-in-Charge of the commercial Cinema Houses made the following observations in the note submitted to the Ministry after the Festival was over:

“The Duty Officers posted in various cinema houses showed exemplary sense of duty and actually performed their functions assigned to them to ensure that no mal-practices were indulged in by the cinema management.”

1.54. The Committee are not able to share this unqualified praise for the Duty Officers posted in various cinema houses, for the inspection by the Officer-in-charge of commercial cinema houses had earlier revealed that the Management of one of the cinema houses had incorrectly informed the customers that the tickets had been sold out and it was only on the intervention of the Officer-in-charge that some more tickets were made available. In another case it was found by the Officer-in-charge that the sale of tickets for individual picture shows had been started much earlier than the specified date with the result that there were protests and demand for sale of more tickets for a popular picture by large number of customers who had gathered there.

[S. No. 9 (Para 1.53) and S. No. 10 (Para 1.54) of 16th Report of PAC
(6th Lok Sabha).]

Action taken

The Government shares the observations of the Committee. As already stated, explanations were called for from all the Officers put on duty at the commercial cinemas and Government displeasures was communicated to nine of them for their lapses.

[Ministry of Information and Broadcasting O.M. No. 9/11/76-FFD dated 15-7-78.]

Recommendation

The Committee stress that in future the duties and responsibilities of the officers posted to commercial cinema houses should be set-out in greater detail and it should be obligatory for the officer-in-charge of the commercial cinema houses to see that the officers posted to various cinema houses in fact perform their duties meticulously and strictly so as to obviate complaints. In particular, they should check the counter-foils of tickets sold the same day and record a certificate to the effect in the daily collection statements to be furnished to the Directorate. The Committee need hardly point out that deterrent and strict action should be taken against any officer found to be deficient in the performance of the duties entrusted to him. The Committee feel that if the duties are properly set-out and performed, it would not only obviate complaints from the public but also make for proper and timely rendering of accounts and avoid any financial or other irregularities.

[S. No. 12 (Para 1.56) of 16th Report of PAC (6th Lok Sabha).]

Action taken

The suggestions of the Committee have been noted for compliance.

[Ministry of Information and Broadcasting O.M. No. 9/11/76-FFD dated 15-7-78)].

Recommendation

The Committee find that out of 532 shows held in the private cinema halls during the two weeks of the Festival, only 191 shows (84 in the first week and 107 in the second week) ran to full capacity. This has been sought to be explained by the Ministry as due to some films being artistic but not very popular. It would appear that the publicity given to such films was not very adequate or properly directed. The Committee would like the Ministry to analyse the matter in detail and prepare guidelines about the manner in which authentic information about the background and artistic merit of

each of the entered films is arranged to be publicised well in advance and suitably through leaflets, press, radio, television etc. so as to reach the potential audience.

[S. No. 14 (Para 1.58) of 16th Report of PAC (6th Lok Sabha).]

Action Taken

Some films despite good and well organised publicity, do not attract sufficient audience or full houses. The lessons learnt during the organisation of the V International Film Festival of India as regards pre-publicity have however been noted by the Directorate. The suggestions of the Committee in this regard have also been noted for necessary action.

[Ministry of Information and Broadcasting O.M. No. 9|11|76-FFD
dated 15-7-78).]

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS REPLIES TO WHICH
GOVERNMENT HAVE FURNISHED INTERIM REPLIES

The Committee are surprised to learn that the original draft agreement with the private exhibitors has been lost. The Ministry has contended that the agreements signed with the cinema owners were those agreements which were duly vetted by the Law Ministry. The Committee considers that the investigation into the loss of such an important document should be carried out conclusively and deterrent action taken against the defaulting officials and the Committee informed.

Action Taken

[Ministry of Information and Broadcasting O.M. No. 91176-FFD
dated 15-7-1978].

P. V. NARASINHA RAO,
Chairman,
Public Accounts Committee.

APPENDIX

Main Conclusions/Recommendations

S. No.	Para No.	Ministry/Department concerned	Recommendation
1	2	3	4
1	1.3	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	The Committee expect that final replies to those recommendations/observations in respect of which only interim replies have so far been furnished will be submitted to them, duly vetted by Audit, without delay.
2	1.7	do.	It is distressing to note that the original draft of the agreement executed with the private exhibitors could not be located. The Committee feel that usually long time has been taken to investigate the loss of draft agreement and take consequent follow-up action thereon. The Committee take a serious view of it. The Committee would urge the Government to expedite the investigations and fix responsibility so as to take deterrent action against the delinquent officials. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the remedial action the Government propose to take for the safe custody of such important documents.

1	2	3	4
3	I, 10	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	<p>The Committee not that Government's displeasure has been communicated to nine of the officers posted on duty at the Commercial Cinema Houses. Nevertheless, the Committee would like to know the basis of unqualified praise for the duty officers by the officer-in-charge of the Commercial Cinema Houses. The Committee would like to be apprised as to how the note of the officer-in-charge stating that "the Duty Officers posted in various cinema houses showed exemplary sense of duty and actually performed their functions assigned to them to ensure that no malpractices were indulged in by the cinema-management" could be reconciled with another note of the officer-in-charge in which various lapses on the part of some of the Duty Officers and malpractices indulged in by certain cinema managements were specifically mentioned. The Committee would also like to know the names and designations of the 9 officers, the nature of explanations given by them and the displeasure communicated to them.</p>
4	I, 13	do	<p>The Committee wish that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting had been somewhat more responsive than merely stating that "the suggestions of the Committee have been noted for compliance". The Committee would desire to be informed of the concrete action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in pursuance of their recommendation that duties and responsibili-</p>

ties of the officers posted at commercial cinema houses should be set out in greater detail to obviate complaints.

5 1.16 do

The Committee are not impressed by the reply that "the suggestions of the Committee have been noted for necessary action". The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken to prepare detailed guidelines about the manner in which authentic information about the background and artistic merits of festival films would be publicised.

Sl. No.	Name of Agent	Agency No.	Sl. No.	Name of Agent	Agency No.
DELHI.			33	Oxford Book & Stationery Company, Scindia House, Connaught Place, New Delhi—1.	68
24.	Jain Book Agency, Connaught Place, New Delhi.	11	34.	People's Publishing House, Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi.	76
25.	Sat Narain & Sons, 3141, Mohd. Ali Bazar, Mori Gate, Delhi.	3	35.	The United Book Agency, 48, Amrit Kaur Market, Pahar Ganj, New Delhi.	88
26.	Atma Ram & Sons, Kashmere Gate, Delhi-6.	9	36.	Hird Book House, 82, Janpath, New Delhi.	95
27.	J. M. Jain & Brothers, Mori Gate, Delhi.	11	37.	Bookwell, 4, Sant Narakari Colony, Kingsway Camp, Delhi-9.	96
28.	The Central News Agency, 23/90, Connaught Place, New Delhi.	15	MANIPUR		
29.	The English Book Store, 7-L, Connaught Circus, New Delhi.	20	38.	Shri N. Chaoba Singh, News Agent, Ramlal Paul High School Annex, Imphal.	77
30.	Lakshmi Book Store, 42, Municipal Market, Janpath, New Delhi.	23	AGENTS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES		
31.	Bahree Brothers, 188 Lajpatrai Market, Delhi-6	27	39.	The Secretary, Establishment Department, The High Commission of India, India House, Aldwych, LONDON, W. C.—2.	59
32.	Jayana Book Depot, Chaparwala Kuan, Karol-Bagh, New Delhi.	66			

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