

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1286
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2009
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO OSCAR AWARD WINNER
Siricilla Shri Rajaiah

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide any financial assistance to the child artists of the Oscar Winning film 'Slumdog Millionaire';
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to improve the quality of cinema in the country to help it competitive at international level including the Telugu cinema; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN)

(a) & (b) There is no scheme of providing financial assistance in this Ministry to the child artists of any film.

(c) & (d) With a view to promoting production of feature films in various regional languages of India, the Government have introduced a Plan Scheme in the 11th Plan called "Film Production in various regional languages by NFDC (National Film Development Corporation)" with an outlay of Rs. 30 crore. An amount of Rs. 6.5 crore was given to NFDC in the financial year 2008-09. The BE for this Plan Scheme for 2009-10 is Rs. 6.5 crore. Further, Government have also introduced a new Plan scheme in the 11th five year Plan called "Production of Documentary Films" with an outlay of Rs. 20 crore. The objective is to provide impetus to the documentary film movement in the country and thereby improve quality of documentaries being made in the country. This Plan Scheme is being implemented by Films Division, which is a subordinate organization of this Ministry. Under this scheme, Films Division will get documentary films produced through outside producers and also through reputed NGOs in a public private partnership mode. In addition to the above,

(i) Government have instituted National Film Awards with a view to, inter-alia, encouraging the production of films of aesthetic, technical excellence and social relevance.

(ii) Government organizes International Film Festival of India annually with a view to, inter-alia, providing a common platform for the film makers of the world to project the excellence of the film art.

(iii) Government selects under Indian Panorama feature and non-feature films of cinematic, thematic and aesthetic excellence for the promotion of film art through the non- profit screening of these films in:

1. International Film Festivals in India and abroad.
2. Indian Film Weeks held under Bilateral Cultural Exchange Programmes and Specialized Indian Film Festivals outside cultural exchange protocols.
3. Special Indian Panorama Festivals in India.