

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:398
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2010
FILM FESTIVALS IN INDIA
Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

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

- (a) whether various film festivals are being held in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) the total expenditure incurred for the purpose during the said period;
- (d) the parameters/criteria adopted for selecting movies for such events;
- (e) whether complaints had been received regarding the selection of films for such events;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the steps being taken to bring transparency in the selection procedure?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT.AMBIKA SONI)

(a) to (g): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.398 FOR ANSWER ON 07/12/2010 REGARDING FILM FESTIVALS IN INDIA

(a) to (g): The following Film Festivals/events are organized by Directorate of Film Festivals (DFF) under Ministry of Information & Broadcasting :-

- i) International Film Festival of India (IFFI)
- ii) National Film Awards (NFA).
- iii) Mini festivals in collaboration with different countries and State Governments which include retrospectives of eminent film personalities and screening of Indian Panorama movies.

While the IFFI takes place in Goa and NFA takes place in Delhi, the other Festivals take place all over the country.

2. Details of important festivals organized by DFF in the last three years is as follows:-

Year	Name of the Festival	Place
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2007-08	Indian Panorama Festival	Delhi
	Indian Panorama Festival	Kolkata
	Screening of National Award Winning Films	Delhi
	Festival on Egyptian films	Delhi
	Festival on Russian and Spanish films.	Delhi
	Festival on Women's Empowerment	Delhi
	International Film Festival of India(2007)	Goa

2008-09	Film Festival on Indian Panorama films	Delhi
	Film Festival on National Award Winning Films	Delhi
	Festival of European Union	Delhi
	Australian Film Festival	Hyderabad & Bangalore
	Chinese Film Festival	Delhi
	International Film Festival of India(2008)	Goa

2009-10 Retrospective of Shakti Samanta Delhi
Retrospective of Bimal Roy Delhi
Retrospective of Akira Kurosawa Delhi
Retrospective of Dev Anand Delhi
Screening of National Award Winning Films Delhi
Indian Panorama Film Festival Shillong
Indian Panorama Film Festival in collaboration with Delhi International Art Festival Delhi
Film Festival of Turkish Films Delhi
International Film Festival of India(2009) Goa

2010 (till 2nd December, 2010) Indian Panorama Film Festival Shimla
Indian Panorama Film Festival Kolhapur
Indian Panorama Film Festival Kohima
Indian Panorama Film Festival Bhopal
Festival of Chinese Films Delhi & Kolkata
Retrospectives of Ang Lee. Delhi, Pune and Kolkata
Retrospectives of Kamal Haasan Delhi
Japan Animation Film Festival Delhi
Screening of National Award Winning Films Delhi
Taiwan Film Festival Kolkata
Bangladesh Film Festival Delhi
Festival on Films on World War II Delhi
Festival on Music in Indian Cinema Delhi
International Film Festival of India(2010) Goa

3. The expenditure towards organizing these Festivals are incurred under the Plan Schemes titled 'Export Promotion through Film Festivals' and non-plan heads titled 'National Award for films' and 'Film Festivals under Cultural exchange'. The total expenditure incurred for the purpose during the period from 2007-08 to November, 2010 is Rs.19.54 crore.

4. Children's Film Society, India (CFSI), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting organizes International Children's Film Festival (ICCF) once in two years. During the period from 2007 till date, two festivals – one in November 2007 and the other in November 2009 were held in Hyderabad. Apart from this, CFSI also organizes State/district level film festivals throughout the country. A list of State-level festival is at Annexure-A. The expenditure incurred for ICCF in 2007 & 2009 and the state level film festivals during the period from 2007 till 30th November 2010 is Rs.3.31 crore.

5. Film Division under Ministry of Information & Broadcasting organizes Mumbai International Film Festival for Documentary, Short and Animation Films (MIFF) once in every two years. Apart from this, Festival of MIFF Award Winning Films is also organized in State Capitals and different cities in the country. During the period from 2007 till 30th November 2010 Film Division has organized 10th MIFF in February 2008 and 11th MIFF in February 2010 at Mumbai. The expenditure on these two events is Rs.3.26 crore.

6. The films are selected, as per provisions of the Regulations notified for National Film Awards, International Film Festival of India and Indian Panorama. The selections are carried out by an independent jury consisting of eminent people from the film fraternity. Broadly, the parameters/criteria are to give recognition to films of aesthetic and technical excellence and social relevance contributing to the understanding and appreciation of cultures of different regions of the country in cinematic form, thereby promoting unity and integrity of the country.

7. Details of complaints received in respect of National Film Awards and Indian Panorama are enclosed at Annexure-B. Apart from these, there were complaints on non- selection of films of some of the film makers from Kolkata in the competition section of MIFF 2010. A writ petition filed in this regard in the High Court was dismissed.

8. The following steps have been taken which would bring in greater transparency in the selection procedure:-

- (i) Two-tier selection system for National Film awards introduced, comprising 5 Regional juries and a Central Jury.
- (ii) Central Jury comprises 10 members from major film-producing centres. They preview only 30-35 films over 10 days, allowing them more time and attention per film.
- (iii) Regional Juries are headed by a person from outside the region, and one of the members is also from outside the region.
- (iv) Provision of recusal from a Jury viewing in case a close relative is associated with a film.
- (v) In case his/her own film is an entry, a person is ineligible to serve on the Jury. This has been the practice since the past.