

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1309
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010
SPEECH OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS
Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram

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

(a) whether the Government has received any representation regarding screening of films/speech of eminent freedom fighters in schools/high schools to strengthen national integration; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action/steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. A letter has been received from Shri Parshottam Rupala, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha, suggesting screening of the films on the freedom fighters in schools and on Television so as to strengthen national integration.

In this regard, the Government has taken various steps. The Films Division releases the approved/notified films/documentaries including films on national leaders in theatres of the country. It organises film festivals in various cities and state capitals including schools/colleges which also include screening of films on national leaders. Student's participation in such film festivals is considerably large. Further, Films Division also sends its films regularly to various Regional Doordarshan Kendras for maximising the targeted audience.

For commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of First War of Independence, 1857, the National Film Development Corporation has been authorized to prepare Digital Video Discs/Compact Discs (DVDs/CDs) for distribution to various schools and colleges. These DVDs/CDs include films, namely, 'Making of the Mahatma', 'Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar', 'Sardar' and 'Gandhi'.

Besides these, Films Division's films on freedom fighters of the country are available on DVDs/CDs/Print for sale for non-commercial purposes including schools. The objective of such films is to familiarise students/younger generation about freedom movement and national unity.