

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:243
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2013
AGREEMENT ON FILM PRODUCTION
Pradhan Shri Nityananda

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

- (a) whether India and other countries proposes to sign an agreement for co-production of films;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the salient features, of the said agreement, country-wise;
- (c) whether such projects exist with contain countries at present;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether under these projects, India has granted permission/would grant permission to other countries to shoot films in India; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which such agreement is likely to be beneficial for the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI)

(a) & (b) India has signed Audio-Visual Co-production Agreements with Italy, United Kingdom, Germany, Brazil, France, New Zealand, Poland and Spain. These inter-governmental co-production agreements aim at strengthening bilateral relations and promoting exchange of art and culture. The co-production agreements enable private, quasi- government or governmental agencies of the two countries to enter into contracts to produce films together. The signing of such agreement ensures better partnership and collaboration between enterprises and institutions which produce distribute and disseminate films. The films so produced are considered as national films in both countries and are treated at par with domestically produced films in each of the co-producing countries. As a country we benefit from being able to sell our shooting locations and generate direct employment, as well as encourage film tourism. The foreign co producer also benefits in his/her own host country, as he/she gets attractive tax benefits and subsidies/grants for the co production. India does not grant any tax benefits or subsidies to its producers.

(c) to (f) India has granted Co-production statuses to the following films:

(i) 'Qissa' an Indo-German co-production.

(ii) 'Miral' an Indo-French co- production.

(iii) 'Dabba' an Indo-French co-production

'Qissa' is directed by Anup Singh where Irfan Khan plays the lead role in the Film. The story of the film is Indian and the shooting is being carried out on location in Punjab i.e. village Khadka and Attari in Amritsar, Panchkulla in Haryana and around Baddi in Solan District, Himachal Pradesh.

'Miral's main cast and crew is from Indian side including the lead actress Ms.Freida Pinto.

'Dabba's co producer from Indian side is Shri Anurag Kashyap along with National Film Development Corporation and will be shot entirely in Mumbai.