

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6525

ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013

PRESERVATION DIGITISATION OF REGIONAL FILMS

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

(a) the steps taken by the Government to restore, digitalise, preserve and enhance public access to the archival wealth of films of the regional film industry including Malayalam Film Industry;

(b) the details of films including those in Malayalam language digitalised so far along with the measures being taken to screen these films in theatres; and

(c) the steps being taken for setting up of Centre of Excellence for Media and Entertainment sectors in various parts of the country including Kerala, State/UT-wise?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): National Film Archive of India (NFAI), was set up under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to safeguard the heritage of Indian Cinema. To avoid permanent loss of audio-visual material, NFAI has so far digitized 566 films including films in Malayalam language as under:

Language No. of films

Assamese 13

English 12

Hindi 225

Kashmiri 1

Manipuri 3

Oriya 4

Tamil 56

Urdu 4

Bengali 80

Gujarati 4

Kannada 20

Malayalam 51

Marathi 40

Punjabi 3

Telugu 20

Silent films 30

Apart from the above, towards preserving and restoring our filmic heritage, a comprehensive project called "National Film Heritage Mission" has been envisaged.

Public screening of films in theatres is a private sector initiative. However, I&B Ministry does hold non-commercial screening of preserved and restored films in film festivals with prior approval of copyright owners.

(c): Ministry of I&B administers two institutes which impart training in the area of Film & Television at Pune and Kolkata. A National Centre of Excellence in Animation & Special Effects is proposed to be set up at Mohali, Punjab to cater to the growing need for imparting job skills to the youth in animation industry.

In the Media sector, Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) is setting up four new Regional Centres of IIMC in Jammu (J&K), Aizawl (Mizoram), Amravati (Maharashtra) and Kottayam (Kerala) under 12th Plan Scheme "Opening up of new Regional Centres of IIMC".