

Title : Alleged rejection of Malayalam films by the Indian Panorama, for the 40th Indian International Film Festival.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Sir, I wish to bring to the kind attention of this august House the discriminating treatment meted out to the Malayalam Film Industry by the Jury Chairman of the Indian Panorama for the International Film Festival. It has been alleged that he even refused to watch the Malayalam movies including the movie *Pazhassiraja*, the mega project of Malayalam Film Industry.

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali

We all know that Pazhassiraja was the only native king to rise against the British misrule. He was a great freedom fighter, who fought the British through Guerilla Warfare by rallying the forces of Kurichyer Tribe and become a martyr for this country.

The historical event has been immortalized in celluloid by the world famous writer M.T. Vasudeven Nair, the director Hariharan and National Film Award Winner Mammooty.

But it is a shameful thing that such a discrimination has been practised against the great movie industry that has made memorable contributions to the Indian Films.

I would, therefore, urge upon the concerned Minister to take necessary action against such despicable action.