

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding providng single window clearance for foreign film productions.

SHRIMATI HEMAMALINI (MATHURA): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my subject is totally different from what is being discussed right now.

Sir, my subject is about providing Single Window Clearance for foreign film productions. As an artiste I have been in Indian cinema for a very long time. So, I choose to address a most relevant issue today concerning film shoots in our country.

Our country India has beautiful, exotic locations, historic and heritage sites and beautiful ancient cities which are being shot by Hollywood film makers very beautifully that we have seen in many films. Film industries world over, especially Hollywood, have always been attracted to India as the most popular destination for film shoots. But the number of foreign films to be shot in India is reduced considerably in the recent past. The reason for this is, in India film makers, especially Indian film makers and also foreign film makers face location delays for permission to shoot at roads, airports, railways or helicopter shots of the city. Even after getting all the required permissions from different Ministries, on the ground they face problems with local police and local municipal corporations and have to necessarily pay bribes to keep a film shoot running smoothly.

Foreign film productions have always been a source of earning foreign exchange and providing employment to our own people. Foreign film productions also encourage the local talents and our Indian rich culture to go main stage at the global level. It also promotes tourism in our country. But the kind of time and resources wasted in getting so many permits is one of the main reasons for less people exploring India as a prospective shooting destination.

So, I would like to suggest to the Government to introduce a Single Window Clearance as this will not only help foreign films but also our own Indian film productions that face a lot of issues in getting permits and other registrations done when it comes to location shoots. I do hope that the Ministry concerned would take positive steps to ensure ease and facilitate a large number of international brands and foreign film production houses to shoot in India. Thank you so much.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Sharad Tripathi, Shri Satyapal Singh, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel and Shri Gopal Shetty are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati Hemamalini.

