

LOK SABHA

*Monday, April, 21, 1986/Vaisakha 1, 1908 (Saka)
The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Shri Atulya Ghose who was a Member of the First, Second and Third Lok Sabha during 1952-67 and represented Burdwan and Asansol constituencies of West Bengal.

An able parliamentarian, he took keen interest in the proceedings of the House. A prominent political and social worker, he had identified himself with a large number of public causes and worked with enthusiasm and dedication for their advancement. Besides being one of the outstanding political figures of national stature, Shri Ghosh was associated with several social and educational organisations.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shri Ghosh took active part in the freedom struggle and suffered imprisonment for nearly 15 years. He left school to join the non-cooperation movement at the young age of 15 years.

A well-known journalist, he was author of several books in Bengali language.

Shri Atulya Ghose passed away on 13. 4. 1986 at Calcutta at the age of 82 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join

me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

(The Members then stood in silence for a short while)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Telecast of Telugu Films on Delhi
Doordarshan

*740. SHRI A. J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Telugu films are being telecast from Delhi Doordarshan ; and

(b) if so, the periodicity of telecast of Telugu films on Delhi Doordarshan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Telugu feature films are telecast on Delhi Doordarshan on rotational basis alongwith other regional language feature films.

SHRI A. J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO: Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister : Is there any proposal to increase the frequency of telecasting regional films by showing them even on week days ?

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : Sir, here I would request the House to understand

the limitations within which I have to function. There are fourteen languages, I have to be fair to all. Originally, regional films were shown on the first Sunday in a month. Then we increased the frequency to two Saturdays in a month. Now, every Sunday we show regional films. So we try to see that all languages get fair representation.

The second difficulty is, somebody must offer that film to Doordarshan. Otherwise it cannot be shown. Third is that there must be sub-titles. Otherwise it is not proper to show. And the fourth is that if it is an adult films with 'A' Certificate, we would like to reduce it to 'U' form. It is only then that is possible to show.

SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO : Sir, a few regional films which are telecast are being badly mutilated. Is it a fact that *Saptapathi*, a good feature film which was telecast a few weeks back was badly mutilated and Members of Parliament have protested against this to the Minister for Information and Broadcasting ? If so, what action has been taken ?

SHRI V.N. GADGIL : I have ascertained what happened in that film. *Saptapathi* was shown on 23rd March. The total duration of the film was 2 hours and 4 minutes. Now, the time allotted to regional feature films is 2 hours on a Sunday. So, four minutes were extra. So, it was slightly edited in order to adjust the time.

The portions edited included a song and a long duration sequence. But it was ensured that story-line, artistic beauty and overall impact of the film were not affected by it.

SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO : Many cuttings were there and the entire story has been changed.

MR. SPEAKER : That is all.

DR. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Sir, we get Telugu movie every week in Andhra every Saturday. So, the Saturday Telugu movie which is being telecast is announced

one week before. So, the last Saturday, even up to the morning, the Telugu movie which was to be telecast by the Doordarshan was *Palletooru Pilla*. But half-an-hour before the programme, suddenly they have changed the movie because that particular movie was acted by a former famous actor, Shri N.T. Rama Rao.....

AN HON. MEMBER : Who is the present Chief Minister.....

DR. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : In this connection, I would like to know whether the broadcasting or telecasting officials are acting and dancing according to the guidance of the Congress Party.

MR. SPEAKER : This should be directed somewhere !

SHRI V.N. GADGIL : Dancing is left to the other side. As far as Hyderabad is concerned, off hand, I cannot say. I have got all the information about the films that are telecast on the Delhi network. From 11 centres, the regional films are telecast every Saturday. As far as this particular film is concerned, I will find out what are the facts.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : So far, it has been the policy of the Doordarshan to telecast films from regional languages which are recognised by the Constitution. Now, may I request the hon. Minister to extend this policy a bit and cover the regional languages to the extent recognised by the Sahitya Akademi so that 4 or 5 more languages come into the fold ?

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : Yes, Bhoj-puri, for example.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Tribal languages also.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Panika, I have not allowed you.

AN HON. MEMBER : Rajasthani film also.

SHRI V.N. GADGIL : Sir, the choice of films is a difficult thing. All kinds of allegations are likely to be made. Some

objective test must be necessary. Therefore, we have decided a regional film which has won national award alone will be shown. Now, I have slightly amended and added one more category, i.e. a regional film which is selected in the film festival panorama. 21 films are selected as best films for panorama for Indian film festival or international film festival. If it is included in the panorama, then it will be qualified to be selected for national telecast. Some objective test must be there. We have thought of these two tests.

If any film, in any other language which is not mentioned in the Constitution and has won the national award or has come in panorama, I am willing to consider.

MR. SPEAKER: Buta Singhji is asking about the Rajasthani film.

Reduction in Building Costs of Houses

*741. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Buildings Organisation has come out with indices of cost of building houses ;

(b) if so, whether these indices have shown considerable increase in construction costs in Delhi and other areas over the last five years ; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to reduce these costs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, these indices have shown an average increase of 16% per annum in the residential construction cost in Delhi and between 11% to 21% per annum in other important centres, namely Ahmedabad, Allahabad, Madras, Bhubaneswar, Patiala, Panaji and Trivandrum in respect of typical type of Residential Building Construction for low income group.

(c) The National Research Laboratories Like the Central Building Research Institute, Structural Engineering Research Centre have brought forth new construction techniques for improving durability and liability of houses alongwith reduction in cost of construction.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Sir, from the reply of the hon. Minister, it is quite clear that the construction cost of residential houses has gone up between 11% to 21% per annum. May I know from the Minister, the cumulative increase over the last 5 years ? I have asked for this information.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : Sir, there has been a tremendous increase in the cost of housing during the last five years. One of the main reasons for this is the increases in the cost of various house building materials from 1980 to 1985. For instance, the price of cement during this period has risen by 15.8 per cent, the price of timber by 22.6 per cent, the price of stone by 14.6 per cent, the price of iron by 13.7 per cent and that of sand by 13.1 per cent. Thus, the overall rise in cost has been 9.1 per cent. Therefore, the cost of housing has increased. As a result of our efforts, the N.B.O. has taken up construction work at 33 different places on the basis of new technique. The N.B.O. has undertaken research in the field of construction of houses for the weaker sections by using the locally available material so as to reduce the cost of construction. Not only this, we have demonstrated everywhere through the N.B.O. as to how good houses can be constructed at lower cost.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : In reply to part (c) of my question, it is stated that the National Research Laboratories have suggested new techniques which will reduce cost of house building. May I know the percentage of reduction in costs of construction ?

I would like to know if any new tech-