

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : There are definite reports that a large number of Bihar workers working in Punjab and Haryana are working as bonded labour. The officers of the States may not be interested in identifying the bonded labour. May I request the hon. Minister to do something positive to identify the bonded labour and see to it that they are properly rehabilitated ?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : We have always been trying to do something positive. But, as I said, it depends on the State Governments. The State Governments have to take the initiative. We come into the picture only when there is a question of rehabilitation, and I have made it very clear that, as far as money required for rehabilitation is concerned, there is no problem ; we have enough funds. But the State Governments have to be activated. Our officers have been going around the States and are trying to impress upon them.

International Film Festival

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*352. **DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN :**
SHRI DILEEP SINGH
BHURIA :

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

(a) whether the 11th International Film Festival of India held in Delhi in January, 1987 evoked poor response and enthusiasm both in the film world and among the cine-viewers ; if so, the reasons thereof ;

(b) the reasons for not making arrangements to screen some of the films in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras ; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred on this festival ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir. On the

other hand, the Festival did evoke considerable enthusiasm.

(b) According to the Regulations for International Film Festivals, film entered in the Festivals can be screened only in the city where the festival takes place.

(c) About Rs. 95 lacs, although the final figures have yet to be reconciled.

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : The reply given by the Minister is not satisfactory. It was reported that at the closing ceremony of the 11th film festival the Chairman and the head of the Jury of the festival Mr. Humberto Solas from Cuba had stated that none of the films screened had come up to the standard for award of Golden Peacock medal.

Moreover, the publicity for the festival through all the media was also quite good. In spite of all these efforts it has been reported that the festival had not been very successful.

I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the poor response is due to non-screening of really good films ; and whether it is due to screening of these films during peak winter month when the public did not venture to go out of their homes.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : It is very difficult to say what should be the criterion of judging the success or the failure of a film festival. It could be judged from the Press Reports that appeared in India and elsewhere ; it could be judged by the number of entries of films ; it could be judged by the number of people who went to see the films or it could be judged from the revenue that it had earned.

If you judge from all these criteria and compare the 11th International Film Festival with the 9th and the 10th which have been held in India earlier, in all these aspects it is very very comparable with the earlier ones.

I will give the figures for the satisfaction of the House. The number of

countries participated in the 11th Film Festival was 47 as against 44 in the 9th and 48 in the 10th Film Festivals. The number of foreign films screened in the 11th Film Festival was 282 as against 187 in the 9th and 276 in the 10th Film Festivals. The number of foreign delegates were 126 in the 11th Film Festival as against 94 in the 10th Film Festival. If we take the attendance, the occupancy in the different cinema halls was 49.26% as against 41.16% in the earlier film festivals. The revenue earned was also comparable in spite of the fact that in the 11th Festival they took a conscious decision of reducing the lowest ticket rate from Rs. 10 to Rs. 5/-

In spite of all this, if we compare it in all these aspects, I don't think there is any reason for us to say that the Festival has been a failure.

Referring to the Press Reports, it is true that as far as Indian Press is concerned they were not very much favourable; but I have a lot of cuttings from the foreign journals and foreign Press which have praised the 11th Film Festival. I don't think I should read out all these cuttings and waste the time of the House.

MR. SPEAKER : Did the Hon. Member have a chance of visiting any one ?

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Sir, during the festival some of the theatres were practically empty. I had personally visited. My second supplementary is that out of the total estimated collection of Rs. 95 lakhs only about 25% could be realised. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this poor collection is due to non-screening of the films in other regional headquarters? What was the collection made by way of screening the award winning films in different regions during the last three years? What was the business offer made for the Indian films by the participating countries?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : I had admitted in my main answer that the amount Rs. 95 lakhs is yet to be finally re-conciled. I do not know what is the actual amount

that will ultimately come in. This is an estimate that we have made. As far as the revenue earning is concerned out of the sale of the tickets it is Rs. 17.65 lakhs.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that the International Film Festival has been very successful. I want to know that if it had been so successful, then why was it not telecast for the people of the whole country. I would also like to know whether such films will be telecast in future?

Secondly, the foreign films are vulgar and nude scenes are shown which do not conform to our culture. Will you take action to restrict the showing of such films?

[English]

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : Film festivals are not shown on TV. On the other hand video and TV may be one of the reasons why sometimes the attendance in the film festivals could go down.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : With regard to the answer given by the Minister actually there was a dip in the enthusiasm. So I agree with the hon. Member, Dr. Peruman when he stated that it did not evoke considerable enthusiasm. Anyhow I want to know from the hon. Minister what are the norms that you are following in conducting the International Film Festivals? You are always conducting the film festivals only in Delhi where the films are not made. Actually the film making is being done in Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, Hyderabad, Bangalore, etc. Secondly, Sir, the hon. Members of this House are not being given a pass whereas IAS officers in the cadre of under Secretaries are getting the pass. Why such a discrimination is being shown towards the Parliamentarians?

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Kolandaivelu, if any passes are to be given then the festivals should be held during the Session when all of you are here.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Sir, the Labour Minister is answering this question. I want to know what has happened to Mr. A. K. Panja ? I want to know whether Mr. Sangma has been given the additional charge or his portfolio has been changed.
(Interruptions)

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : Sir, as far as norms are concerned we strictly follow the International norms. There are two types of film festivals that take place. One is one which we are talking about now. There is another festival which takes place in-between the International Film Festival which we call 'Film Utsav'. This 'Film Utsav' takes place in various centres in the country. It takes place in Hyderabad. It takes place in Bangalore and other parts of the country. In fact, the next one will be in Trivandrum. So, it is not that all the film festivals are held in Delhi alone. It is held elsewhere also.

There are various categories of film which are shown like those based on competition, films based on information, foreign retrospective, focus on Asia-Pacific films. This time, we have added two more categories : wild life film section and the other one is the mainstream cinema, which hit the box office but they normally do not get entry into that.

But the main question is why the honourable Members are not given passes. Well, we will certainly consider this point.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Gaekwad from a musician's angle.

SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Sir, our commercial films which are entered in the film festival are of different types altogether. I want to know when the honourable Member has already mentioned that the attendance for these films is almost nil, why are we holding these film festivals ? Secondly, what has been achieved through these film festivals ?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : There have been lot of achievements. Well, I don't think I will elaborate everything

International Film Festival, besides encouraging float of the films, thus gives us an opportunity to improve our bilateral relations, exchange of culture.

AN HON. MEMBER : Nobody goes to see that.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : Sir, I have already given the figures. In fact, I have stated the occupancy in the Eleventh Film Festival was 49.26 per cent as against 41.16 per cent.

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right now.

Production and availability of quality seeds

358. **SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any new schemes are under consideration to produce quality seeds and ensure their timely availability to farmers ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b) A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) and (b) After successfully completing Phase-I and II of National Seeds Programme from 1976-1985, the Government of India is considering to launch Phase-III of the Project in the year 1987-88.

Objective :

The aim of the project is to assist in achieving the objectives set for the agricultural sector with particular emphasis on promoting use of good quality seed of superior varieties in order to improve agricultural productivity and farm incomes.