

LOK SABHA

Monday, August 19, 1985/Sravana 28,  
1907 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at  
Eleven of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Functional Autonomy to Doordarshan  
Producers

\*367. SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether producers employed in Doordarshan are given functional autonomy in so far as the script and the design of the programme are concerned ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor .

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

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the producers in the

Madras Doordarshan Kendra Have complained even to the Minister, the Deputy Director General as well as the Director General, Doordarshan, that there is one person in the Kendra, the Deputy Director (Programmes) who is not permitting the Producers to have any say on any item either for designing or for script. Their complaint is that there is constant interference. In the complaints they say that their programmes often lack quality only because of the constant interference and their inabilities to design the programmes properly. Would the Minister look into this matter and take action to remedy the situation and if possible report to this House on the outcome ?

SHRI V.N. GADGIL : This is for the first time, I am hearing all these. I will certainly look into this.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : The second supplementary is that the Producers of the Madras Doordarshan Kendra have complained of lack of proper support in the sets for making programme due to shortage of stock. In 1982 an inventory was taken and it was found that there were tremendous discrepancies. In fact, even the internal audit have complained about it. But it was covered up, I understand and I wish to state quite categorically, because of political patronage. From 1982, till todate no inventory has been taken of the stocks. The internal audit has not been allowed to have a say in the matter. In fact people from the Wardrobe Assistant to the top of the Kendra are involved in this racket. Would the Minister—my question is very clear—ensure that an inventory is taken in the Madras Doordarshan Kendra by a third party—not by an internal assessment because everybody is involved in that Kendra—either by Vigilance or CBI and take appropriate action against those who are involved ?

MR. SPEAKER : Is it a pertinent question, Sir ?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : It is important because there is lack of proper support...

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister will take note of this.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : May I explain, Sir ?

MR. SPEAKER : No. Mr. Jaipal Reddy.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : May I know whether it is a fact that the senior aids of Ministers and senior officers of the Departments had tried to interfere with the Janvani Programmes which were prepared ; and whether it is also a fact that certain Video Cassettes prepared in the context of Janvani Programmes were erased and reused and if, what are the reasons therefor ?

SHRI V.N. GADGIL : Sir, as far as the first part of the question is concerned, the answer is 'No'.

As far as the second part of the question is concerned, the answer is 'Yes'. In the case of three recordings of Janvani, the tapes were erased. In one case, that of Shri Buta Singh, the alternative was available. However, in two cases, it was erased. The matter is being looked into.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : What are the reasons therefor ?

MR. SPEAKER : That is what they are trying to find out. The enquiry will show what were the reasons therefor.

SHRI V.N. GADGIL : I said, I am enquiring into it, I am trying to find out the reasons.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE : Did they erase them first and then they

are trying to find out the reasons now !

SHRI V.N. GADGIL : I said, I am enquiring.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NIRMAL KHATTI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, sponsored programmes are being telecast by Doordarshan. May I know whether it is proposed to telecast such programmes as could be conducive for the development of national character ?

MR. SPEAKER : Khattiriji, it is not relevant.

[*English*].

I.L.O. Convention Regarding Carrying of Weight by Workers

\*368. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have accepted the I.L.O. convention with regard to carrying of not more than 50 Kg. weight by workers (both men/women) ;

(b) if so, whether in a number of States, most of the workers in godowns, at Ferrywharfs and Ports and Docks carry over 100 kg. of weight at a time ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to stop this practice ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) to (c). A Statement is given below.

#### Statement

The ILO Convention No. 127 concerning the 'Maximum Permissible Weight to be carried by one worker' was adopted by the International Labour Conference in 1967. The Convention requires regula-