

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, August 12, 1980/Sravana 21,
1902 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Selection of Hindi Movies and Dramas for T.V.

*941. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will
the Minister of INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING be pleased to state:
state:

(a) what are the criteria laid down
for the selection of Hindi movies for
screening on the various T.V. stations;

(b) whether there have been occa-
sions where one film has been shown
more than once;

(c) if so, the number of such pic-
tures which were shown to T.V.
viewers more than one in a year;

(d) the name of drama which has
been shown more than once by the
T.V. in the capital; and

(e) whether any comments of the
viewers on these films and dramas are
obtained regularly before the films are
selected for screening on T.V.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION
AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI
RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) The
following are the criteria for the
selection of Hindi movies for screen-
ing on TV:—

(i) Any film or other material
shown on TV shall conform to the

directions issued by the Central
Government to the Central Board
of Films Censors for certifying
films.

(ii) Films which are certified as
'A' by the C.B.F.O. shall not be
telecast.

(iii) Even 'U' certificate films
should be previewed by a duly con-
stituted committee and their clear-
ance obtained before telecasting
the film.

(iv) No film which has been
suspended from exhibition and is,
therefore, deemed to have been
'uncertified' shall be shown on TV.

(v) Films telecast from Door-
darshan should have social pur-
pose and should be fit for family
viewing.

(b) here have been occasions where
films have been repeated once or
twice, but not during a single year.

(c) No picture has been shown
more than once during one year.

(d) The dramas shown more than
once by Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi
during the last two years are as
follows:

1979—(1) INNA KI AWAZ (2)
DEPUTY COLLECTORY (3) SAP-
NE (4) SUNANDA (5) EK PHOOL
KA PATJHAR.

1980—(1) SANDHYA CHHYA
(2) ANDHER NAGRI (3) PHIR EK
BAAR (4) DEVI (5) EK THA
RAJA (6) BAND GALI KA AKHIRI
MAKAN.

(e) While comments of the viewers
are not obtained in advance, the films
selected are shown to the members
of the Screening Committee consist-
ing of people from various walks

of life like school teachers, social workers writers, house-wives, educationists etc. Further from time to time, T.V. viewers keep on sending their comments and suggestions regarding films and dramas screened by Doordarshan Kendras.

SHRI K. PRADHANI: The hon. Minister in her reply has stated that only films with "U" certificates are telecast from Doordarshan Kendras. What are the principles laid down by the Government to classify films as "U" and "A"? Secondly, when films are certified as "U", why should they require further screening by a Committee?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING & SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VASANT SATHE): "U" and "A" certificates for films are given under the Censor Rules. The rules which apply for categorisation as "A" and "U" for films apply for television telecast. "A" means Adults and "U" means Universal. Those certified as "A" by the censors cannot be shown in TV, because in the case of TV viewers you cannot distinguish adults from children. Therefore, by way of abundant caution we have decided that on TV we shall only show those films which are certified for universal exhibition. In that also we make a further screening because sometimes, under the guise of universal screening also, there may be films which may be having certain scenes which may not be good for children, which you may not like to show children or to see with your children. Therefore, even that is not shown. But after all, human life is human life. Sometimes some scenes do get in in spite of all these precautions.

SHRI K. PRADHANI: Sir the last sentence of this reply is:

"Further, from time to time TV viewers keep on sending their comments and suggestions regarding films and dramas screened by Doordarshan Kendras."

So, Sir, when these comments are sent to these Doordarshan kendras, may I know from the Government or from the Minister whether the Ministry takes note of the suggestions and comments of these TV viewers, and if they require repetition of these films to be screened on TV, whether they consider it as they do in the All India Radio regarding songs? If so, what is the procedure?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: They are taken into consideration. It is in fact on their popular demand that a repeat show of a particular film is done. But you cannot do it too often. If that is done, then other films cannot be shown. Therefore, we have put a limit that in a year we will repeat it only once if there is a popular demand. This is how the reaction is done. But you cannot do it too often. by the viewers.

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the reply at (a) (v) the Minister stated:

"Films telecast from Doordarshan should have social purpose and should be fit for family viewing."

Just now, the Minister has also said that those pictures will be shown on the TV in which there is no obscenity. But I am sorry, I would like to bring to your notice that there were so many pictures shown on the TV which are not only obscene, but also full of violence etc. That is not at all suitable for children. Such pictures are also exhibited on the TV and I request you to see that some steps are taken in this regard. TV pictures are different from other pictures. As you said, while viewing on the TV, children also will be there along with parents. So this should be prohibited. I would like to know what steps he is taking in this regard.

The second thing is every Sunday Hindi pictures are being exhibited. Like that, there is a demand also from all the regions. Now and then

you are also showing some regional pictures like Telugu pictures, Tamil pictures and Malayalam pictures. Sir, I would like to know whether he would keep every Saturday for exhibiting regional pictures just as every Sunday is kept for Hindi pictures.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: That is a very good suggestion. Formerly, actually this is what used to happen. We used to keep every Saturday for regional films and Sunday for the Hindi films. I think this is a good suggestion. We will try to restore the previous practice of showing the regional films on Saturdays.

As for the earlier part of the question, I have already replied. As I said, we are showing only those certified for universal exhibition on television, but it is not possible to show.... (*Interruptions*). It will differ from person to person. Somebody may not like more fighting scenes and somebody may like them. But I can assure you that fighting and obscenity are different things. As far as obscenity is concerned, we are trying to be more particular.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has just stated that regional films are shown on the Delhi TV. I would like to know whether Bengali films are shown or not, and also Oriya films, and whether these regional films have been shown more than once, if so, the names of the films and the information as to how many times they are shown. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Regional films are shown, as I said, on Saturday. I do not have figures whether a regional film has been shown more than once because I don't think there will be enough time to show regional films repeat because other region also have to be covered. Therefore, I do not think there will be a chance to shown regional films on a repeat performance.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Have you shown any Bengali films?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I have seen some Bengali films myself, but I do not have the number of films shown with me just now. I will collect the information and give it to him.

Laying of pipeline from Mathura to Jullundur

*943. **SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether pipelines are being laid from Mathura Refinery to take oil to Jullundur and other places; and

(b) if so, the details of the pipelines being laid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) & (b). Yes, Sir. In February, 1979, Government approval was granted to the Indian Oil Corporation Limited for laying a pipeline from Mathura to Jullundur via Delhi and Ambala at an estimated cost of Rs. 35.32 crores for supply of petroleum products to the north-west region. The pipeline having a length of 513 kms. will have an initial capacity of 3.7 MTPA. The Mathura-Delhi Section of the pipeline is targetted for completion by August, 1981 and the Delhi-Ambala-Jullundur section by April, 1982.

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: May I know whether this is the revised or the original estimate?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): The revised estimate is Rs. 50 crores.

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: When are they going to begin operation of the pipeline?