

(b) The manufacturers' prices of Soda Ash have increased essentially on account of increases in the cost of inputs. There is no statutory control over the price and distribution of Soda Ash. However, with a view to improving the availability of Soda Ash, the following measures have been taken by the Government:

(i) Guidelines have been issued to ensure that actual industrial consumers get at least the quantity received by them during the Calendar year 1977 when there was no shortage.

(ii) The import of Soda Ash has been permitted to all industrial consumers under Open General Licence (OGL) with effect from 14th January, 1979. As the International price is high, the customs duty on imports has been reduced from 75% to 5% in case of dense and 35% in case of light soda ash so as to make the price of imported Soda Ash comparable with indigenous prices.

(iii) In order to help small scale industrial units, 19,100 tonnes of Soda Ash light were imported by the State Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Corporation of India (CPC) during the year 1979-80 and distributed mainly to small scale units and State Units both direct and through State Government Organisations. This year also it has been decided to import 20,000 tonnes of Soda Ash through CPC to supplement indigenous production.

(iv) To protect the interest of small users like house-wives and Dhobies, the manufacturers, arrangements have been made for the supply of about 1000 tonnes of Soda Ash per month to the National Consumers' Cooperative Federation Ltd. (NCCF) for distribution throughout the country.

(v) A Standing Committee has been set up to review periodically the distribution and availability of Soda Ash.

As a result of these measures, the availability has improved considerably.

बाल फिल्मों का निर्माण

* 316. श्री अशोक गहलोत: क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार देश में बनाई जा रही निम्न कोटि की फिल्मों का बच्चों और अन्य लोगों के चरित्र पर होने वाले घृणित प्रभाव को रोकने के लिए बच्चों की फिल्मों और सामाजिक विषय की फिल्मों के निर्माण की किसी योजना पर विचार कर रही है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार इस प्रकार की फिल्मों को किसी सरकारी एजेंसी द्वारा बनाए जाने के किसी प्रस्ताव पर भी विचार कर रही है जो बच्चों तथा अन्य लोगों के चरित्र निर्माण में सहायक होंगी ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसकी क्या रूप-रेखा है ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री वसन्त साठे) : (क) से (घ). बाल फिल्म सोसाइटी बच्चों और किशोरों आदि के लिए विशेषरूप से उपयुक्त और विशेष रुचि की फिल्में बनाती है । सरकार ने विभिन्न भारतीय भाषाओं में प्रति वर्ष 4-5 फिल्मों के निर्माण और बच्चों के लिए इतनी ही संख्या में विदेशी

फिल्में मंगाने तथा उन्हें भारतीय भाषाओं में डब करने की योजना को सिद्धान्ततः स्वीकार कर लिया है। फिल्म प्रभाग भी ज्ञानवर्धक, शैक्षणिक और सामयिक सामाजिक विषयों पर लघु फिल्में बनाता है। इसके अलावा, राष्ट्रीय फिल्म विकास निगम सामाजिक और उद्देश्यपूर्ण विषयों पर अच्छी कोटि की फिल्मों के निर्माण के लिए प्राइवेट निर्माताओं को ऋण देता है।

ऊपर बताई गई एजेंसियों के जरिये फिल्मों के निर्माण में बढ़ावा देने के अलावा, सरकार का फिल्म निर्माण का काम हाथ में लेने का कोई विचार नहीं है। चूंकि फिल्मों का निर्माण निजी क्षेत्र में आता है, सरकार इस सृजनात्मक कार्य में सीधे भाग लेना आवश्यक नहीं समझती।

Radio facilities in Bihar

*320. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been recently talks between the State of Bihar and Centre to extend some radio facilities to the State; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). smt. Ram Dulari Sinha, former Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting held discussions with senior State Government officials on September 22, 1980, in Patna, on expansion and improvement of radio in the State of Bihar. During the discussions the State Government was *inter-alia* requested to provide land for the proposed radio station at Jamshedpur, for construction of studios for the Bhagalpur station and for staff quarters. The Chief Secretary to the State Govern-

ment assured the former Minister of State that land would be made available to A.I.R. expeditiously.

Effect of renewal of Assam agitation on supply of crude

*321. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) effect on flow of crude oil from the Upper Assam wells due to renewed agitation on foreigners issue; and

(b) steps taken or proposed to be taken for facilitating the regular flow of crude oil from wells as well as from Gauhati Refinery?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) The flow of crude from the oil wells in the Upper Assam oil fields has been considerably reduced on account of the agitation. Further improvement will depend upon the situation in Assam.

(b) Old deconditioned crude lying in the Gauhati-Barauni section has been flushed out. Digboi refinery has started taking O.I.L. crude. Gauhati refinery is under overhaul. Bongai-gaon and Barauni refineries continue to remain shut-down.

बागड़ी में गीतों, बातियों का प्रसारण

*322. श्री भीष्मा भार्गव : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अहमदाबाद, बम्बई उदयपुर और जयपुर से बागड़ी बोली में गीतों, बातियों आदि का प्रसारण करने की मांग जोर पकड़ती जा रही है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो मांग की पूर्ति के लिए क्या उपाय किए गए हैं ;