

I find that in some respects countries like Poland also have done some good job. Therefore, wherever it is necessary, having regard to the nature of the equipment we are trying to borrow the technology and some of these countries are coming forth with the transfer of technology also which is being taken by our country for the larger interests of the nation.

Boycott of National Film Development Corporation by Film Federation of India

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*979. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :
SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Film Federation of India has decided to boycott the National Film Development Corporation and not to submit any film for a censor certificate ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the industry has been directed by the Federation to stay away from the forthcoming national film awards festival and not even to enter a film for it ; and

(c) if so, the reasons in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS, IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b). The Film Federation of India informed the Government on 12th April, 1984 that at a meeting of representatives of film industry held on 10-11 April, 1984 under the aegis of the Federation, it was, *inter alia*, decided not to extend any co-operation in the functioning of the National Film Development Corporation, to fix up a date from which the members of the industry will not apply for censorship and not to associate with the forthcoming National Film Awards Festival.

(c) The Film Federation of India felt that the attitude of the Ministry of Infor-

mation and Broadcasting is not sympathetic to the various problems faced by the film industry and that the Ministry was concerned with the promotion of only one particular section of film makers, viz. the so-called 'art film makers'.

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has stated in his reply that the Film Federation of India has felt that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is not sympathetic to the various problems faced by the film industry. In this context, may I know from the hon. Minister as to how far this charge is true ? And what are the main problems faced by the film industry at present ? Has the film industry brought to the notice of the Government the main problem being faced by it and if so, what are the steps taken by the Government to solve these problems ?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Sir, some of the main points which have been emphasised by the Film Federation of India are about the video piracy and also the point that the additional chairman of the Central Board of Film Certification should be from South. And then, about the composition of the Certification Board, they say, most of the members should be from the film industry. And then, about the period of certification, it is generally for 10 years. The Film Federation have represented that they want it should be extended up to 25 years. It is like that. They have given a memorandum and the memorandum has also been given to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Information and Broadcasting. The Ministry is sympathetically looking into the matter. And after submission of this representation, again the Minister for Information and Broadcasting had a meeting on 18th April, and to the extent possible, the Government would try to see that whatever the problems the film industry is facing, should be removed and in turn the film industry should also cooperate with the Government in order to create a healthy atmosphere.

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Sir, The Film Federation of India further alleged that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting was concerned with the promotion of only one particular section of film makers, viz., the so-called 'art' film makers. If the

allegation is true, why other film producers have not been given encouragement in the promotion of their films. If the allegation is not true, what specific steps have been taken by the Government in the last three years for the promotion of other categories of films and the details thereof ?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Sir, it is not true. Art film makers are encouraged, no doubt. But at the same time it does not mean that the commercial film makers are discouraged.

AN HON. MEMBER : Art film has got to be encouraged.

Discovery of Deposits of Oil and Gas in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra

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*980. **SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :**
SHRI NAVIN RAVANI :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the exploratory teams of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission have discovered substantial deposits of oil and gas in 550 square kilometre area of Satpura and Vindhya ranges of Madhya Pradesh and parts of Maharashtra ;

(b) whether the preliminary survey has been carried out, if so, the result thereof ; and

(c) the steps being taken for exploration of oil and gas from this area ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Preliminary geological and geophysical surveys are in progress. The data obtained from the above surveys will be analysed for delineating possible prospects for exploration of hydrocarbons.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has replied in negative so to say. In this context, I want to draw his kind attention to a news-item published in the *Hindustan Times*, Delhi

edition of 14th April. They have stated that the official sources have categorically reported that the oil struck in Satpura and Vindhya is positive and that the hydro carbons are available in plenty. I would like to know whether it is a fact ? In case it is not a fact, may I know when has the exploratory work been started and has there been any time limit fixed by which they will submit their report about the feasibility of getting gas and oil from the Vindhya region.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : Sir, in Madhya Pradesh, the geological survey in different sedimentary basin has been carried out from 1960-61. Samples have been collected and analysed for assessing the potential. There was also an investigation by the Soviet experts during the early 70s. These studies have indicated potential for discovery of hydro carbons basis as speculative.

In fact, the position as it stands today is, so far 17,500 kms. of area of sedimentary basin has been covered by geological mapping. About 523 stations have been measured by Gravity Magnetic Party in the present field season of 1983-84. Still the various activities are continuing. We have planned for the 7th Five Year Plan to intensify these activities. Even in 1984-85, we have also fixed up the programmes for the survey.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Sir, from the reply given by the hon. Minister, you will kindly agree with me that this type of exploration work all over the country is very badly delayed for which our country's progress has been neglected like anything. So, may I know from the Minister what specific action has been taken or proposed to be taken so that this type of exploration work of natural gas, oil etc., should be expedited so that our indigenous consumption can be met by the production of natural gas and oil from our country.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : Sir, you would agree with me that the performance of the oil sector has undoubtedly been excellent and encouraging. Now, my hon. friend has specifically asked about the question of Madhya Pradesh. That is why, I gave those details. But if he wants to know what exactly the exploration programme for 1984-85, I have said, of course, in a broad