

LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, July 20, 1982/Asadha
29, 1904 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of
the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Declaration of Cinema as an Industry in Orissa

*163. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Orissa Government have decided the cinema as an Industry; if so, the financial institutions from which funds will be available to the industry for its development; and

(b) the assistance being provided by Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHI) : (a) The subject of cinema, excluding certification of cinematographic films for exhibition i.e. censorship, is a State subject. However, the Union Government is aware that the Orissa Government has decided to register construction of cinema houses and production of films as industrial activity and to include these in the list of small-scale industries for getting financial assistance or Government guarantees under the Orissa State Aid to Industries Act, 1978.

A list of institutions which are currently granting loans/financial assistance for this purpose is enclosed.

(b) The National Film Development Corporation which is a Public Sector Undertaking under this Ministry have a scheme for giving loans for construction of cinema theatres in the urban, semi-urban and rural areas in the country and also for production of films. In Orissa these schemes are being implemented in collaboration with the Orissa Film Development Corporation.

INSTITUTIONS FINANCING CONSTRUCTION OF THEATRES/ STUDIOS/PRODUCTION OF FILMS IN ORISSA.

1. National Film Development Corporation
2. The Film Development Corporation of Orissa Limited
3. Orissa State Finance Corporation
4. Orissa State Industrial Promotion Corporation
5. Indian Bank
6. Vijaya Bank
7. New Bank of India
8. Urban Co-operative Bank
9. Oriental Bank of India

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : The Hon. Minister has given a very ornamental answer to my question by sympathetically telling that there are so many Schemes to help rescue the Cinema industry in the backward areas and by mentioning that so many corporations and banks are coming to the rescue of the cinema houses and the cinematography in the State.

In view of the fact that Orissa is a State which has the lowest number of cinema industries, cinema houses and film producing centres, may I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the fact that Reserve Bank of India is dead against financing of the cinema industry in Orissa?

This view has been indicated by Shri Janardhana Poojary, the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance, in his reply to the question of Mr. Sethi.

"I have had the matter investigated. Although the Government of Orissa might have classified cinema/theatre in the small scale industry sector, it does not come within the purview of small scale industry as per the approved norms prescribed by the Reserve Bank of India."

But the Hon. Minister has now replied :

"Government has decided to register construction of cinema houses and production of films as industrial activity and to include these in the list of small scale industries for getting financial assistance or Government guarantees under the Orissa State Aid to Industries Act, 1978."

This is a contradictory statement.

In this context, I would like to know categorically from the Hon. Minister the total amount of funds given to the cinema industry by the National Film Development Corporation during the last two years after the cinema had been declared as an 'industry' in Orissa and whether the nationalised banks have given loans for production of films and cinema houses in Orissa, whether any other State has declared cinema as an 'Industry' and the Central Government has come to their rescue.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As far as assistance by nationalised banks is concerned, as the Hon. Member himself has said the Department of Finance has not yet agreed through the Reserve Bank to recognise this small scale industry and to give financial assistance from the financial institutions. We are still discussing this matter with the

Ministry of Industry and with the Ministry of Finance and we are trying to persuade them that they should accept to recognise the low budget film making at least as small scale industry.

But, apart from that, on the initiative of the Orissa Government and in collaboration with the National Film Development Corporation, upto now loans to the extent of Rs. 18 lakhs have been given to 42 films by the Orissa State Film Development Corporation.

The loan of three films given by NFDC in collaboration with the Orissa State Film Development Corporation is to the extent of Rs. 11 lakhs. As far as construction of cinema theatres is concerned, the loan sanctioned by the NFDC in Orissa along with the State Film Development Corporation is for seven theatres. The loan given by the Bank of Orissa.

MR. SPEAKER : You could lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : This is enough. The loan given by the Bank of Orissa is for twelve lakhs and the loan given by the Orissa State Finance Corporation is for three lakhs.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : My second supplementary is this.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you starting some film industry? I will recommend Dr. Subramaniam Swamy to be the hero.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Hon. Minister give more assistance for Orissa because Orissa is a backward State and people are poverty-stricken and many unemployed graduates are roaming about here and there. Also our first point is population control in the country—

to motivate and promote family planning in a persuasive manner—and implementation of the 20-point programme also can be exhibited through different films and cinematographs. Orissa is number one in population control and they have received awards also. Basing on this specifically, I would like to ask the Minister, whether he will take up the matter with the Finance Department and at the same time he will give priority for sanctioning of loan through Film Development Corporation to Orissa for cinema houses and for film-making.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We are interested in backward regions and we will definitely bear this suggestion in mind.

T. V. Tower for Delhi

*166. **SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to construct a new T. V. tower and a more powerful transmitter for Delhi to increase the telecast range of Delhi Doordarshan;

(b) the amount to be spent on the project; and

(c) what are the other features of the new T. V. tower ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to instal 2x10 KW transmitter in lieu of the existing 10 KW transmitter and increase the tower height from 100 Mts. to 235 Mts. enlarging the range of coverage from 68 Kms. to 90 Kms. With the increase in the range, TV service will cover a population of about 140 lakhs; at present, a population of 100 lakhs is covered.

(b) The total cost will be Rs. 373 lakhs approximately.

(c) The height of the Delhi TV tower will be of 235 Mts. It is proposed to provide a revolving restaurant and viewing gallery.

SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN : I want to know from the Hon. Minister as to why this decision has not been taken by amalgamating it with the Asiad so as to give this benefit to the people who would be viewing the colour TV. When do you propose to start this project and how long will it take to be completed?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It could not be started before the Asiad because it could not be a part and parcel of the Asiad construction and it will take at least about two years to complete the tower and this whole complex, with the revolving restaurant, gallery, etc. Therefore, we could not rush such a project to be completed before the Asiad. As far as the Asiad being seen in colour or otherwise is concerned, even the present transmission will cover the existing area and people who are lucky to have colour TV sets would be able to see them in colour.

SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN : This extra expenditure of Rs. 373 lakhs is going to benefit about 140 lakh people as against 100 lakh people today and it would enlarge the range of coverage from 68 kms to 90 kms that means about 56 miles from Delhi. Instead of incurring such a heavy expenditure for only 56 miles, would it not be better to spend a little more and cover a range of 100 miles, New Delhi being the Capital city?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It is not a question of a little more or a little less. It is a question of range. There is a limit to the height to which you can go and that height enables you to reach a particular range. Otherwise you have to go to the satellite, That, of course, we are