

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : It will not consist only of experts but there will be representatives of trade, importers and also the main producers and Government representatives.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : I want to know whether the Government of India has taken stock of the situation in this country for promotion of exports.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : The committee has recently been set up. So far as export is concerned, export has shown encouraging figures. But there is no availability of oilcakes in the quantity we want. Maharashtra, where we could get them in plenty, is short of oilcakes. But even in that situation exports have been improving.

Crisis in Film Industry due to Scarcity of Raw Film

*674. **SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Film Industry in India is facing a serious crisis due to the inadequate institutional financing and scarcity of raw film ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to solve this crisis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY) : (a) The problems of our film industry include the lack of adequate institutional financing and the occasional scarcity of raw film.

(b) Government have set up the Film Finance Corporation Limited to meet the shortage of institutional financing at reasonable rates of interest. This is a public undertaking which of late has been financing the production of comparatively low-budget and purposeful films of high artistic merit. Government have recently augmented the resources of the Corporation and propose to place additional funds at its disposal during the current and subsequent years.

A factory has been set up in the public sector for the production of raw black and white film. Whenever there have been temporary shortages of such films, Govern-

ment have imported sizeable quantities of such films through State Trading Corporation.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : May I ask what was the total amount sought by applications for film finance during the last year and how much did you actually give ?

SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY : Actually we have Rs. 1.32 crores. That is the budget of Film Finance Corporation. It is a fact we get a number of applications but it is not possible to meet those demands of the people who ask for the money. But again, as I have already mentioned in my answer, the purpose of the Film Finance Corporation is to finance those films which are of high artistic quality. So, it is not for the Film Finance Corporation to finance all the films or any one who wants to make films.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : What is the applied amount and how much you actually gave ?

SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY : This figures is not available with me now but I will give it later.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : About the raw-material production, as I understand, the requirement of negative film is in the region of 18 million feet a year and for the positive it is about 4.57 lakh feet a year. In view of the failure on the part of the public sector project at Ootacamund to give the required quantity of raw-material to the film industry what specific steps the Government proposes to take to save it from ruination.

Secondly, Mr. Sinha had assured that he will set up a chain of cinemas in the public Sector. What have you none in regard to that ?

SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY : Sir, it is a fact that there was shortage of raw film, that is, black and white positive film. The import of black and white positive film is not normally allowed in view of the indigenous production as has been mentioned by the hon. Member. But due to the shortage of film we have allowed import of the black and white positive film and met the demand of the film industry.

SHRI D. N. TIWARY : May I know what is the criteria of a high quality a film or a film with intrinsic qualifications because the applicants who go for finance are harassed on this norm? Can you tell me what criteria has been laid down and what steps are taken to see that people are not harassed?

SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY : I do not agree with the hon. Member that the people are being harassed by the Film Finance Corporation. As I have already mentioned, the resources of the Film Finance Corporation are limited. It is not possible to meet the demand of all people who apply for finance. To decide about the artistic merit of the film, there is an expert committee and there are a number of committees which go through the script the treatment and other things of the film. They examine the whole thing and then decide it.

श्री शंकर बवाल सिंह : मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार के पास ऐसी सूची है कि वित्त के बिना या जिन साधनों की आवश्यकता होती है, जैसे रा-मैटीरियल, उन के बिना कितने चित्र अभी अगूरे पड़े हैं ?

MR. SPEAKER : It need not be answered because that is not a relevant question.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : In view of the shortage of films in the country and in view of the import of raw films from foreign countries involving foreign exchange, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the capacity of the Hindustan Photo films will be increased so that we become self-sufficient in raw films and may I know when we will achieve self-sufficiency?

SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY : It is not the question of increasing the capacity of Hindustan Photo Films. Actually, these are temporary shortages in production and they are trying to meet the shortages. They are also trying to improve the quality of films.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : The production of black and white films in our country

has gone down considerably. About 85 per cent of films that are produced in the country are colour films. We do not manufacture raw colour films in our country and immense foreign exchange is being spent over the import of raw colour films. The quality of positive black and white films that are produced in our country is good but the black and white negative is of low quality. Will the Government consider improving the quality of black and white negative in our country and also will the Government consider setting up of a plant for the manufacture of colour films.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is about financing.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI : There is no doubt that there is a very serious crisis in the film industry. More than 300 films are lying on the shelf for want of finance and raw materials. The hon. Minister just now said that the Film Finance Corporation is not in a position to give adequate finance for the production of films. May I know from the hon. Minister whether she will move the Government to recognise film industry as an industry and also move the Government to give financial aid to the film industry so that they can also survive and feel that they are a part of the country and they get out of the crisis. The Hindustan Photo Films has been closed for more than six months. That is the reason why raw material is not available in the country. I would like to know what steps Government are taking in the matter.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not a question but a suggestion.

**असबारी कायम के आयात के बारे में
भारत-कत करार**

७६७६. श्री राधाबतार झारत्री : क्या विदेश-व्यापार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत से कत के साथ असबारी कायम के आयात के सम्बन्ध में करार किया है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इसकी मुख्य-मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?