

Shri Swell: The Minister has said just now that he has assessed the contribution of these citizens' intelligence forums and students' clubs and that their contribution has been very important. May I know whether, as a result of this assessment, any policy of the Government has been influenced by this assessment and to what extent?

Shri K. K. Shah: This is a very wide question. We do take advantage of the reactions collected from these forums.

Shri Swell: My question was specific. Has any policy of the Government been influenced by these assessments and to what extent?

Shri K. K. Shah: What happens imperceptibly cannot be assessed in words.

Shri A. B. Vajpayee: I should like to know who has made the assessment about these forums and whether a report of the assessment will be placed on the Table of the House.

Shri K. K. Shah: The assessment is made by our Department in the sense the reactions are received. I personally went to two or three forums and I tried to find out whether all opinions were represented. I was happy to find that all shades of opinions were called and all shades of views were expressed in these forums.

Documentaries by the Films Division

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*1474. **Shri A. B. Vajpayee:**

Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta:

Shri Yajna Datt Sharma:

Shri R. S. Vidyarthi:

Shri P. N. Solanki:

Shri Brij Raj Singh Kotah:

Shri Ranjit Singh:

Shri S. S. Kothari:

Shri S. K. Tapuriah:

Shri E. K. Nayanar:

Shri Bhara Singh Chauhan:

Will the Minister of Information and

Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether the documentaries produced by the Films Division of the Government of India do not have any mass appeal and are very dull;

(b) whether Government propose to improve the standard of the documentaries and make them more impressive and educative; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K. K. Shah): (a) No, Sir, this is not so. The documentaries have mass appeal and are not dull.

(b) Films Division continue to strive to improve the quality of their productions which in turn improves their public acceptability. This is evident, among other things, from the numerous national and international awards won by Films Division's films. A statement of the awards won during the last 5 years in international festivals is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1254/67].

(c) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1255/67].

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री जी ने कहा कि सब वृत्त चित्र बुरे नहीं होते, मगर उन में से कुछ ही सक्ते हैं। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि वह कुछ कौन से हैं, क्या उन कुछ के बारे में मंत्री जी जानकारी देंगे ?

Shri K. K. Shah: I do not like to contradict the Chanda Committee's Report about these films. The evidence given before the Chanda Committee has not been handed over to us. The evidence recorded by the Chanda Committee, I am informed, has been destroyed and that evidence is not before the House. It is only the Report that is before the House.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Destroyed by whom?

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : प्रधी मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि चन्दा कमेटी के सामने जो गवाही दी गई थी उसे नष्ट कर दिया गया। यह गवाही किसने नष्ट की? क्या चन्दा कमेटी ने नष्ट की या सरकार ने?

श्री के० के० शाह : सरकार ने नहीं नष्ट किया।

Shri A. B. Vajpayee: Who has destroyed it?

Mr. Speaker: They have not done it. The Minister said that the Chanda Committee submitted the Report but destroyed the evidence.

Shri K. K. Shah: We tried to find it out. We have been informed by the Chanda Committee that they have destroyed it.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: As a general convention, the evidence and other materials are sent by the Committee to the Government.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister says that the Chanda Committee has informed them that the evidence has been destroyed by them.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह तो बड़ा गंभीर मामला है। क्या सरकार द्वारा नियुक्त कोई समिति उस को मिलने वाली गवाही को नष्ट कर सकती है? क्या मंत्री महोदय ने पता लगाया कि उन्होंने क्यों नष्ट किया? क्या उन से

पूछा गया कि उन्हें नष्ट करने का अधिकार नहीं था तो कैसे नष्ट किया?

Shri K. K. Shah: I am myself worried about it. I have made enquiries and, unluckily, it is so. I am helpless.

श्री मधु लियये : किस ने नष्ट किया उस की जांच कर के प्राप इतिला दीजिए।

श्री के० के० शाह : बहुत अच्छा।

Mr. Speaker: The question is whether you have enquired from them why they have done it.

Shri K. K. Shah: That is how I am able to make a statement. Otherwise how could I say?

श्री केशर लाल गुप्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जो डाक्यूमेंटरी फिल्म बनायी जाती है वह ज्यादातर कांग्रेसी सरकार के कामों को दिखाने के लिए बनायी जाती है या जो मिनिस्टर्स हैं वह कहीं जाते हैं क्या करते हैं, इस का प्रचार किया जाता है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इस चुनाव के बाद जिन प्रान्तों में गैर-कांग्रेसी सरकारें हैं उन प्रान्तों की भी कोई डाक्यूमेंटरी फिल्म बनायी है और जो अपोजीशन लीडर कहीं दौरे के लिए जाते हैं और कुछ करते हैं उन की कोई फिल्म बनायी है?

Shri K. K. Shah: In cases where, from the point of view of news, a Minister's presence is necessary for the purpose of.....

Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta: It is not a news; it is a nuisance. (Interruption).

Shri K. K. Shah: I am talking of both. So far as documentaries are concerned, you will find, very rarely the Ministers are seen there.

श्री केशर लाल गुप्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं ने यह पूछा है कि चार महीने चुनाव को हों

गए हैं, आप ने किसी गैर-कांग्रेसी सरकार की भी कोई डाक्यूमेंट्री फिल्म बनायी है ?

Shri K. K. Shah: The documentary films, in this year, will include the programme because this is all done in consultation with the State Governments. There is a film on West Bengal.

श्री रा० स्व० बिद्यार्थी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि सितम्बर 1964 के अन्दर जब उन्होंने फैसला लिया कि मिनिस्ट्रीज और पब्लिक प्रॉडरटेक्शन जो है उनकी डाक्यूमेंट्री न बनाकर जो सोशल इविल्स है और जो सोशली सिगनिफिकेंट चीजें हैं उन के लिए डाक्यूमेंट्रीज बनायी जायेंगी तो 1964 से आगे तक इस विषय में सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ? कितनी फिल्में बनायी हैं और उन के नाम क्या वह बता सकेंगे ?

Shri K. K. Shah: I want notice of answering this question. It requires a detailed answer. But I can point out for the information of the hon. Member that there was a report given in 1964. While the best among the Films Division documentaries can stand international comparison and competition, the rest are works of less than imaginative art. Therefore, you will find that the best among them can stand international competition.

श्री रणजीत सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, क्या मंत्री महोदय बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि फिल्म डिवीजन के जो चित्र बनते हैं उस में डिफेंस प्रोरिएटेशन का भी कोई प्रोग्राम आप की तरफ से रहता है। क्या ऐसा कुछ आदेश है कि जहाँ तक हो सके डिफेंस प्रोरिएटेशन इन फिल्म्स में रहे ? और पिछले युद्ध के समय तमाम संस्थाओं ने गैर-कांग्रेसी संस्थाएँ जिन में प्रमुखता रखती है, जनता की सेवा और बच्चों की सेवा में जो रात दिन एक कर के प्रयत्न किया उस का

क्या कुछ भी प्रचार आपके फिल्म डिवीजन द्वारा किया जायगा ?

Shri K. K. Shah: Defence-oriented films are produced and are shown in the documentaries. This is a fact.

Shri S. S. Kothari: Does the Government have collaboration with the corresponding Films Divisions in U. K., U. S. A., U. S. S. R. and other friendly countries, so that interesting films could be exchanged, and may I also know whether the Films Division has its own representatives in those countries, so that colourful vignettes of life could be captured and displayed in this country?

Shri K. K. Shah: Exchange does take place.

Shri S. S. Kothari: Does the Government have representatives there?

Shri K. K. Shah: We have no representatives.

श्री सु० कु० तापड़िया: अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने ऐसी 28 तस्वीरों की तालिका दी है और उन्होंने खुशी जाहिर की है कि इन 28 तस्वीरों को इनाम मिला। लेकिन क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताएंगे कि इसी अवधि में कुल कितने चित्र बनाये गए और उनको देखते हुए यह 28 तस्वीरें कितने प्रतिभत होती हैं ? और

(ब) जैसा अभी कुछ सदस्यों ने कहा बनावों के बाद जो परिस्थिति पदा हुई है क्या उस की भी कोई तस्वीर बनायी है ? जैसे मध्य प्रदेश में हुषा या और प्रदेशों में हुषा तां डेमोक्रेसी ऐट वर्क इस तरह की कोई फिल्म बनायी है ?

श्री मधु निमये : द्वारका प्रसाद मिश्र पर ज़रूर बतानी चाहिए और प्रधान मंत्र पर भी !

Shri K. K. Shah: From my answer and the statement laid on the Table

of the House, the hon. Member should be satisfied that one producer can produce three documentaries in a year. There have been hardly four months and you cannot expect me. (*Interruptions*). All this programme is fixed in consultation, as I have said, with State Governments and I can assure my hon. friend that the views of the the State Governments will be fully honoured.

Shri S. K. Tapuria: He has not answered the first part of my question.

Shri E. K. Nayanar: Our hon. Minister is submitting here about international awards and certificates that the Films Division won in 1964, 1965 and all that. I would like to say that the Films Division is interested only in taking Ministers' tours, cutting the ribbons, opening institutions, Prime Minister's smiling, and things like that. I am not going into the details. I want to know whether the Government will take the lives of the rural masses, the peasants' agitation for immediate demands. I want to know whether our Films Division will go into that. I agree with the recommendation of the Chanda Committee; they have mentioned:

"The past bias has been to give undue importance to talks, more particularly because Ministers and Ministries insist on broadcasts to publicise their activities . . ."

I accept the Chanda Committee's report and I want that it should apply to the Films Division also. I have found that our Films Division along with the USA Films Division shows films where mercenaries from the USA are landing in South Viet Nam for butchering the patriotic fighters of the South and North Viet Nam . . .

An hon. Member: He is making a speech, and not putting a question.

Mr. Speaker: He is coming to his question. Let him come to it.

Shri E. K. Nayanar: I want to know whether Government will appoint a similar committee on the working of

the Films Division just as they had appointed the Chanda Committee to go into the working of All India Radio; otherwise, they should apply the Chanda Committee's recommendation to the Films Division also.

Shri K. K. Shah: The Chanda Committee's report was given in June, 1966. The recommendations are under examination.

Shri Ranga: Even after one year?

Shri K. K. Shah: There were other reports also; I think there were four reports, and many recommendations have been accepted. Before all the recommendations of this committee are examined, to appoint another committee would, I think, mean sheer waste of time and money.

Shri E. K. Nayanar: The Chanda Committee had criticised the working of AIR. In the same way, may I know whether Government are prepared to appoint a committee to go into the working of the Films Division or they will apply the same report to the Films Division also?

Shri Ranga: What the hon. Minister has said is rather surprising and raised the question of conduct of business by Government. Whenever any such committee is appointed, the secretary to that committee is generally a Government servant. Has any action been taken against that secretary who was responsible for the destruction of the evidence or under whose orders or under whose regime the burning down or the destruction of the minutes of evidence tendered before the Chanda Committee took place? If the secretary was not responsible for it but the chairman of the committee was responsible for it, has any explanation been asked for from the chairman of that committee? Would Government also see that hereafter such untoward things would not be allowed to happen in the case of such committees appointed by Government?

Shri K. K. Shah: Even though I have been told that the record has been destroyed, I am trying to find out whether the word 'destroyed' has been used by mistake in place of 'misplaced'. I am making inquiries, and after I complete the inquiries, I propose to take up the case, because when examining the recommendations in the absence of the evidence, I find it very difficult sometimes to understand the recommendations; that is why it is more in my interest that I should have this evidence.

Shri Ranga: Has any action been taken against the secretary to that committee?

Shri K. K. Shah: I am making inquiries, and as soon as the inquiries are complete, I shall let him know.

Shri Supakar: This year is the International Tourist Year. May I know how many films are circulating in other countries to attract tourists to this country?

Shri K. K. Shah: I would require notice of that question.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, . . .

Mr. Speaker: I am seeing the hon. Member every time he rises. But I can call Members only one by one. Let him not repeat the shouting 'Sir' every time.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I hope you would not mind our rising.

Mr. Speaker: He can certainly rise; but should not shout. I am seeing him every time. If a Member goes on shouting every now and then 'Sir' I would not call him; rather, I would give preference to Members who silently rise.

Shri Nath Pal: This is the latest standing order?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: There is a lot of controversy going on in the country about the effects and defects of gheraos. May I know whether a docu-

mentary is likely to be produced on gheraos and giving chances to those who are for and those who are against it? I would not have asked this question but for the fact that the West German Embassy has already produced a documentary on this.

Mr. Speaker: And Shri S. M. Banerjee may be appointed Director for that purpose!

Shri K. K. Shah: So, far, I had no idea, but I am obliged to my hon. friend for making a suggestion and giving me an idea.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I shall write to him.

Shri N. K. Saughi: Has any assessment been made in regard to the popularity of these documentaries with the cinema-goers because generally these documentaries are shown before the beginning of the regular film and the majority of the cinema-goers are out of the auditorium when the documentaries are shown?

Shri K. K. Shah: I would only request my hon. friend to go through some of the papers now. They have said that formerly it used to happen, but now things have changed.

श्री ए० ए० जोशी: श्री मंत्री महोदय ने बतलाया कि साल के लिये प्रोग्राम बनता है। इस साल के लिये भी प्रोग्राम बनाया गया और वह अपनी जगह पर ठीक है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या उन्हें यह जानकारी है कि इस साल दो प्रोग्राम में जो गैर-संप्रति राज्य बने हैं वहाँ के लिये भी कोई डाक्यूमेंट्री बन रही है? जैसे बिहार में अनाल हुआ, वहाँ पर कुएं खुदने का काम चल रहा है, दो फसलें उगाने का काम चल रहा है, इस पर कोई डाक्यूमेंट्री बनाने का कोई विचार है या नहीं, इस को कोई जानकारी मंत्री महोदय को है?

Shri K. K. Shah: I only wish to draw my hon. friend's attention to the documentary on Drought which has

been very well appreciated by all parties and by all people throughout the country.

Shri Tenneti Viswanatham: I wanted to raise the question raised by Shri Ranga. Now that the Prime Minister and Home Minister are here, I would like to raise it and ask whether when committees are appointed, it shall be a standing instruction that they shall not destroy the evidence upon which they make their report. Will the Prime Minister please note it?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): Noted.

Mr. Speaker: The Prime Minister has taken note of it. I wanted to take the sense of the House. We have spent about 20 minutes on this question. Still there are many members who wish to ask questions. Should we go on with this. (*Some hon. Members:* No.) If the House wishes, we can spend another 10-15 minutes on this question. But otherwise, if you agree, we can go to the next question. If I allow one Member to ask a question, I cannot deny the opportunity to the other members who have risen.

Shri Samar Guha: Only one question.

Mr. Speaker: If I allow him, I cannot deny a chance to the other members, Shri Madhok, Shri Ghani, Shri Kachwal and others . . .

Shri Samar Guha: I only wanted to ask about the many many documentaries that were brought from Japan about Netaji.

Mr. Speaker: . . . therefore, let us go over to the next question.

Fire in Atomic Plant in Rajasthan

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*1476. **Shri R. Barua:**

Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:

Shri Onkar Singh:

Shri Brij Raj Singh Kotah:

Shri Hukam Chand Kashwal:
Shri Ram Singh Ayarwal:
Shri Jagannath Rao Joshi:
Shri N. S. Sharma:
Shri Beni Shankar Sharma:
Shri Hardayal Devgun:
Shri T. P. Shah:
Shri Bharat Singh Chauhan:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Ram Gopal Shalwale:
Shri Sradbakar Supakar:
Shri Brahmanandji:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fire broke out on the 13th May, 1967 in the Rajasthan Atomic Plant, Kota;

(b) if so, the extent of damage caused as a result thereof;

(c) whether any investigations into the causes of fire have been made; and

(d) so, the results thereof?

The Deputy Minister (Dr. Sarojini Mahishi): (a) A fire occurred on May 12, 1967 at the site of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Project near Kota.

(b) The principal damage was to the scaffolding and shuttering erected by the contractors for the pre-stressed concrete dome of the reactor building. The loss to Government is estimated to be in the neighbourhood of Rs. 2.5 lakhs, but the main portion of this is expected to be recovered from the insurers.

(c) and (d). A Committee was appointed by Government to investigate into the cause of the fire. The report of the Committee has been received and is under the active consideration of Government.

Shri R. Barua: Are Government aware that the security arrangements in that organisation need a thorough check-up?

Dr. Sarojini Mahishi: Government are fully aware of that. Security