

Steps to Counter Wrong Image Created about India by Films of Foreign T. V. Companies

*559. SHRI D. N. PATODIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken some steps to counter the wrong images created by some films which have been taken by foreign T. V. Companies and are being exhibited in U. K. and in Europe ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) how these measures have achieved their end ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) :

(a) to (c). Government are constantly engaged in countering all propaganda and publicity against India, through various media including Television. We have now established new procedures and conditions, for granting permission to foreign TV teams for shooting films in India. Government are also encouraging appropriate Television and film organisations to take interest in various aspects of development and other work in India, as well as our artistic, cultural and social life. We are hopeful that given adequate time these measures will prove fruitful.

Expansion of Indian Oil Corporation

*560. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) what further steps have been taken to expand the Indian Oil Corporation ;

(b) whether majority of the Petrol Pumps in the country still belong the foreign oil companies ; and

(c) if so, whether there is any scheme not to extend the terms of these petrol pumps with a view to replace them by Indian Oil Corporation Pumps ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS, AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) Expansion of the refining capacity and of facilities to market the production from public sector refineries as also the import of deficit products is a continuous process. It has enabled the I. O. C. to more than double its sales between 1966 and 1969. The future expansion plans are being executed keeping in view the growing requirements of POL products in the country.

(b) As on 1st January, 1970, of the 9909 retail outlets in operation, IOC had 2656 retail outlets or 26.8% of the total. This represents an increase of 2429 retail outlets in the last five years since 1.1.1965, when IOC's participation in total retail outlets was only 3.2%.

(c) In accordance with the accepted recommendations of the Retail Outlets Committee, 95% of the new retail outlets between 1.1.1968 to 31st December 1972 are to be set up by the IOC. In addition, in selected 33 cities with a population of over 2.5 lakhs, where there is pressure on urban land, retail outlets on public land are voluntarily offered by the private oil companies to the Indian Oil Corporation on expiry of leases.

Sino-Pak Aid to Underground Nagas

*561. SHRI R. K. BIRLA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether China and Pakistan are actively aiding underground Nagas in their anti-Government activities ;

(b) if so, the type of aid being given to underground Nagas by these countries ; and

(c) the steps being taken to prevent foreign aid reaching these Nagas ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. These countries have been assisting with training facilities, supplies, arms and ammunition and finances