

[English]

Marathi Telefilms

1398. SHRI VILASRAO NAGHNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Marathi telefilms pending for approval at present; and
- (b) the time by which these are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Two telefilms are awaiting approval at present.

(b) No time can be indicated as selection of serials depends upon the programme requirements and availability of time slots.

[Translation]

Allocation to DAVP

1399. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount allocated by the Government to Directorate of Audio-Visual Publicity for publicity during each of the last two years and current year; and
- (b) the amount spent by DAVP under public awareness campaign for resolution of various national problem during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) The amount allocated by the Government to DAVP for publicity and expenditure incurred by DAVP on publicity during the last two years and the current year is as under:

Year	Amount allocated by Government, (Rs. in lakhs) DAVP	Expenditure incurred by DAVP (Rs. in lakhs)
1992-93	3017.50	3014.05
1993-94	2893.15	2888.46
1994-95	3023.57	2028.41 (upto 31.10.94)

Public awareness is an integral part of all publicity activities of DAVP. Therefore, the entire expenditure incurred by DAVP on publicity has a direct bearing on public awareness.

[English]

US EXIM loan for I.O.C.

1401. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation has recently secured a substantial international loan from the US Exim Bank arranged by the Bank of America;
- (b) if so, the details of the loan indicating inter alia the amount of the loan secured, rate of interest payable, duration, moratorium, if any, etc.;
- (c) the purpose for which the loan amount is proposed to be utilised;
- (d) whether any guarantee from any Indian bank or any financial institutions has been given for setting the loan;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reason for waiving of the guarantee by the US Exim Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) IOC has finalised a foreign currency loan upto an amount of US \$ 8 million from the US Exim Bank, arranged by Bank of America.

- (b) The loan has been arranged at around 6% per annum interest rate repayable in 10 equal successive semi-annual instalments from January, 1997.
- (c) The loan is for the purpose of financing import of catalyst for the Panipat Refinery Project.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.
- (f) US Exim Bank has not insisted on any guarantee from any Indian Bank/Financial Institution.

[Translation]

Bhojpuri Films

1402. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Bhojpuri Films telecast on regional channels of Doordarshan during the last year; and
- (b) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to boost production and telecasting of more films in Bhojpuri?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Three, Sir.

(b) The National Film Development Corporation Ltd provides financial assistance for the production of films in various languages including Bhojpuri, depending upon the merits of the script/proposal.

[English]

Recognition as backward Class

1403. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of social groups which have so far