

Special Award given to Film 'Gaman'

1143. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the film 'Gaman' was given a special award at the International Film Festival; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons/criteria for such special awards?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir; the film 'Gaman' was awarded the Special prize of the Jury at the VII International Film Festival.

(b) It is the practice at International Film Festivals for the Jury to give a special award at its own discretion. The Jury of the VII IFFI selected 'Gaman' for the special award on account of its being a promising first film by its director.

Exploratory Drillings undertaken

1145. SHRI SHANKERSINHJI VAGHELA:

SHRI G. M. BANAT-WALLA:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of exploratory drillings undertaken during the period from the 1st January, 1977 to the 31st December, 1978 and the areas where the exploratory drilling was undertaken;

(b) the names of the places where exploratory drillings are likely to be undertaken during the next two years; and

(c) whether any funds have been allocated for the purpose, if so, the amounts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a)

to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Memorandum by Hindustan Aeronautics Officers' Association

1146. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received memorandum dated 14th January, 1979 from the Hindustan Aeronautics Officers' Association, Bangalore about the prayer for stalling of victimisation and protection of democratic rights of officers of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bangalore; and

(b) if so, steps so far taken in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) A representation has been received from the HAL Officers' Association, Bangalore regarding the action taken by the Management against some officers for various acts of mis-conduct. The representation has, *inter-alia* sought withdrawal of suspension orders, dropping of all charges levelled against the officers and refund of penal deductions made from the salaries of officers. The Management have adopted a very reasonable attitude in dealing with the Officers' Association. They have not resorted to victimisation of officers or infringement of their democratic rights as responsible officers.

(b) With a view to resorting normalcy in the relationship between HAL Management and the Officers' Association, the former has offered to revoke the suspension orders on the officers of the Association provided the Association gives an assurance that it would not take recourse to agitational activities in future. The Association has not accepted the offer of the Management. On the other hand, the Association insists that it would not give the assurance asked for unless the Management drops all the charges levelled against