

Proposal to open Cinema Theatres in Smaller Towns

1185. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR N. PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to encourage the opening of Cinema Theatres in the smaller towns and rural areas;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to relax the restrict conditions put for opening such theatres; and

(c) whether Government propose to give any special concessions for temporary theatres?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) The Central Government is quite conscious of the need for more cinemas in the country and to encourage this activity he Film Finance Corporation which is a Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control of Central Government has drawn up a scheme to finance construction of Janata Theatres in Semi-urban areas. An amount of Rs. One Crore is being made available as loan to Film Finance Corporation from M.P.E.A.A. funds.

(b) The conditions can be relaxed by the State Governments only as the rules and regulations concerning cinema construction have been laid down by them. The Central Government has written to all the States/ Union Territories emphasize the desirability of amending the cinema regulations or alternatively exempting construction of Janata Cinemas from the stringent regulations in order to encourage this activity.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration of Central Government at present.

Multi-crore Ordnance Swindle

1186. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR N. PATIL: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report appearing in the news weekly 'Blitz' dated the 13th January, 1979 under the caption "Multi-crore ordnance swindle";

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government to the observations of serious nature made therein and facts of the matter; and

(c) details of action taken/proposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (PROF. SHER SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The two cases—one regarding disposal of 500 M/T of Aluminium scrap (Turnings and Borings) for which tenders were opened in June 1978 and the other for 85 MT of Magnesium Turning and Boarding (Swarf) in December 1977—have been taken up for examination. In regard to the case of disposal of 500 M/T Aluminium scrap (Turnings and Boarding) no evidence of any collusion has been as alleged in the news item, established. The second case is still under examination.

In order, however, to streamline the procedure for the disposal of these scraps and to avoid any complaint of this nature in future, clear-cut guidelines have been issued in regard to the issue of tender notices and their proper publicity in the Indian Trade Journal and various newspapers to ensure that the intending tenderers are made aware of these tenders.