

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:79
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2003
GUIDELINES FOR SHOOTING FOREIGN FILMS IN INDIA
M. DURAI;M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to liberalize the guidelines for shooting foreign feature films and co-production in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this relaxed regime will also apply to Jammu and Kashmir, North-Eastern States and the border areas;
- (d) If so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in view of the security considerations of these States;
- (e) whether shooting of foreign feature films may affect the domestic film industry; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken to safeguard the interest of domestic film industry?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 79 FOR ANSWER ON 24.7.2003.

(a) to (f) Shooting of foreign films/co productions in India has earlier also been permitted subject to existing regulations. However, recently the guidelines for shooting of foreign feature films and co-productions in India have been liberalized to make them more facilitative.

Under the revised guidelines, proposals to shoot foreign feature films and co-productions in India will be cleared within a maximum of three weeks as against the twelve weeks taken earlier. Procedures regarding scrutiny of scripts, attachment of liaison officer with the shooting team and preview of film before its release anywhere in the world have been rationalized.

Keeping in mind security concerns relevant to the border areas, specific clearance will be required for shooting in Jammu & Kashmir, North-Eastern states and other specified border areas and could take longer than the stipulated three weeks.

The guidelines have been revised after detailed inter-ministerial consultations in order to facilitate the working of the domestic film industry and also of studios and laboratories offering production and postproduction services. The speedier clearances would make India an attractive destination for foreign filmmakers as also bring in foreign exchange, technology and fresh management practices.