

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1826
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2007
SHOOTING OF FOREIGN FILMS IN INDIA
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Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government has reduced the 'waiting period' for clearing applications for shooting of foreign feature films in India;
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry has also taken a decision to permit shooting in certain specified areas could take much more time;
- (c) whether India also welcomed Pakistan's decision to lift ban on Indian films; and
- (d) if so, the extent to which it has been helpful in promoting Indian films in Pakistan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI)

a) Government of India has simplified the procedure for shooting of films by foreigners in India. Processing of the application for granting permission, in consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs, will normally not take more than three weeks.

b) If the film requires shooting in sensitive areas of Jammu & Kashmir, North-Eastern India or border areas of the country, etc., the application will be considered for specific approval in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs. In such cases clearing of applications would require more time to process.

Further, if the issue(s) dealt in the feature film is(are) regarding communal subjects, human rights, tribal, nuclear and defence related issues or any other issue dealt in the script considered provocative or sensitive from economic/social/political angle, permission would require prior consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs.

c) Govt. of Pakistan has not lifted ban on Indian films.

d) In view of the facts indicated at (c) above, (d) does not arise.