

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
NATIONAL FILM ARCHIVE OF INDIA (NFAI)

**[Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the
Thirtieth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Estimates]**

COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES
(2014-15)

SIXTH REPORT

(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

SIXTH REPORT

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(2014-2015)

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Presented to Lok Sabha on 29th April, 2015



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

April, 2015/Vaisakha, 1937 (S)

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES (2014-15)

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* Elected vide Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II No. 987 dated 03.012.2014 consequent upon vacancy caused by the appointment of Shri Hari Bhai Chaudhary, Member of Lok Sabha in the Council of Ministers w.e.f. 09.11.2014.

^ Elected vide Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II No. 987 dated 03.012.2014 consequent upon vacancy caused by the appointment of Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, Member of Lok Sabha in the Council of Ministers w.e.f. 09.11.2014.

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Devender Singh - Additional Secretary
2. Shri P.V.L.N. Murthy - Joint Secretary
3. Shri Srinivasulu Gunda - Additional Director
4. Shri L. Shantikumar Singh - Committee Assistant

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of Committee on Estimates (2014-15) having been authorized by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, do present this Sixth Report on action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Thirtieth Report of the Committee (2013-14) on the subject 'National Film Archive of India (NFAI)' pertaining to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

2. The Thirtieth Report of the Committee on Estimates (2013-14) was presented to Lok Sabha on 5th February, 2014. The Government furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in the Report on 28th July, 2014. The draft report was considered and approved by the Committee on Estimates (2014-15) at their sitting held on 24th April, 2015.

3. An analysis of action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirtieth Report of Committee on Estimates (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix II.

**NEW DELHI;
24th April, 2015
Vaisakha 4, 1937(Saka)**

**Dr. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI,
CHAIRPERSON,
COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES.**

CHAPTER I

REPORT

This Committee Report deals with the action taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the Thirtieth Report of the Committee on Estimates (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'National Film Archive of India (NFAI)' pertaining to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

1.2 The Committee's Thirtieth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 5th February, 2014. It contained Seven Observations/Recommendations. Action Taken Notes in respect of all the Observations/Recommendations were received from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on 28th July, 2014.

1.3 Replies to the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report have broadly been categorized as under:-

(i) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:

Sl. Nos. 1, 4 and 7

(ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply:

Sl. No. Nil

(iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee:

Sl. Nos. 3 and 6

(iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final reply of the Government is still awaited:

Sl. Nos. 2 and 5

1.4 The Committee hope and trust that the Observations/Recommendations accepted by the Government would be implemented in right earnest. The Committee desire that further Action Taken notes on the Observations/Recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Final Action Taken Replies to the Recommendations contained in Chapter-V of this Report be furnished to them at an early date.

1.5 The Committee will now deal with the action taken by Government on some of the recommendations in the succeeding paragraphs.

A. Review of NFAI

(Recommendation Para No. 1)

1.6 Having noted the miserable failure of NFAI in achieving its objective to trace, acquire and preserve the heritage of national cinema, less than 20 films out of the 1000 produced in the country during the Silent Era are available now. Even valuable films of the Sound Era, including ***Alam Ara (1931)***, the first talkie made in India, have reportedly been lost forever. Countless number of valuable items like screenplays, posters, stills, costumes, properties and vintage equipment have also been damaged or completely lost during the past decades. NFAI houses only 9000 movies whereas availability and condition of the rest of 34,000 movies is unknown. A vast majority of filmic material still remains untouched in private collections, the Committee desired the Government to institute a comprehensive review of NFAI with a view to revamping the organization and ensuring that NFAI achieves the objectives for which it was established.

1.7 The Government in its Action Taken Reply has stated that the Ministry has undertaken complete review of National Film Archive of India (NFAI), including administrative issues and upgradation of infrastructure. A brief note is given below:-

Administrative issues: As far as administrative issues are concerned, the following action has already been initiated:

- (i) A circular inviting application to fill up the vacant post of Director, NFAI was issued on 23.6.2014.
- (ii) Action is being initiated to fill up the Deputy director cum curator post through direct recruitment through UPSC.
- (iii) Approval of the Ministry is being communicated to NFAI to request Staff Selection Commission to fill up the Group 'B' and 'C' posts on urgent basis.

Upgradation of infrastructure of NFAI including Jayakar Bungalow and setting up of digital library.

This 12th Plan scheme "Upgradation of infrastructure of NFAI including Jayakar

Bungalow and setting up of digital library” is under implementation and the following works are planned to be completed during current financial year(2014-15) and next financial year:-

Phase I:

- (i) Water proofing treatment on roof, repairing & painting to basement film vaults, providing check drain for arresting leakages are being completed in Phase-I.
- (ii) The component of providing Digital Dolby system, procurement of 35mm projectors, replacement of fire fighting systems, upgradation/replacement of air-conditioning system, replacement of DG set and HT panel, replacement of Halon gas are being completed.

Phase II:

Components: construction of security fencing, construction of cement concrete internal road, repair to existing approach road completed.

National Film Heritage Mission (NFHM):

- (i) An Advisory Panel under the Chairmanship of Secretary, I&B including eminent person from film industry will be constituted for assessing the work to be undertaken by NFAI under the scheme NFHM.
- (ii) Necessary provisions included for construction of additional film vaults in the scheme.
- (iii) Adequate Budgetary provision for Acquisition of material, procurement of digitization equipment, preventive conservation of films included under the scheme.

It is expected that the Committee’s apprehensions regarding NFAI will be adequately addressed through above schemes to be implemented by the Ministry.

1.8 The Committee note with satisfaction that the Ministry have taken concrete action in pursuance of their Recommendation with a view to revamp NFAI and bring it on track. The Committee expect that all the measures being undertaken/contemplated will be taken to their logical end with due promptitude so that NFAI starts functioning with greater vigour and takes the course of achieving its laid down objectives in a professional manner without further delay.

B. Need for National Policy on Film Acquisition, Restoration, Digitization and Preservation

(Recommendation Para No. 2)

1.9 Finding that there is no legal compulsion on the part of the filmmakers or the whole film fraternity to contribute and preserve their films for posterity with the result that countless number of films and filmic material appear to have been lost and though there is a film acquisition policy made in 1981, there is no policy on preservation and restoration of films, the Committee had recommended that a comprehensive national policy be formulated incorporating the existing film acquisition policy as may be modified and also covering other areas viz. restoration, digitization and preservation of film and filmic material.

1.10 The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, in its Action Taken Reply, has stated that most producers tend to view film as commercial venture alone, much to the exclusion of the cultural aspect of cinema and have therefore not focused on its preservation needs. Also there is no legal compulsion on the part of the filmmakers to contribute by preserving their films for posterity. The present Cinematograph Act was enacted in the year 1952. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice Mukul Mudgal in 2013 to examine various issues under the Cinematograph Act, 1952. The Committee revisited various aspects of films including need to archive films. The Committee submitted its report and the Ministry is in the process of introduction of Cinematograph Bill 2014. For the purpose of making films available to Government for archiving, without additional financial burden on acquisition in future, it is proposed to include a provision in the new Cinematograph Bill, that before issue of certificate by the Central Board of Film Certification, the applicant or his authorized representative shall deposit, at his own cost, a married print of the film in the same format in which it has been certified or in such other format, with such agency or agencies, as may be prescribed. The prescribed agency will be National Film Archive of India (NFAI). There is a 12th Plan project known as 'National Film Heritage Mission' which aims to restore, digitize and archive films for posterity. The Mission will have a High-level Committee which will strategize and develop a full-fledged restoration policy as per which important films will be taken up on priority basis for digitization and for restoration.

1.11 The Committee note that the Government has taken a two pronged action with a view to address the serious shortcomings pointed out in their Recommendation. One, the

Cinematograph Act, 1952 is being amended to make it mandatory for the filmmaker to deposit at her/his own cost a married print of the film to the National Film Archive of India. Two, a 'National Film Heritage Mission' project is envisaged in the ongoing Five Year Plan which aims to restore, digitize and archive films for posterity. The Mission amongst others would have a high-level Committee to strategise and develop a full scale restoration policy. The Committee, while appreciating the initiatives of the Government towards the fructification of their Recommendation, hope that these will be undertaken with utmost promptitude so that the pendency of decades together is taken care of and a depository for the new films also comes into existence at the soonest.

C. Launching of National Film Heritage Mission (NFHM)

(Recommendation Para No. 3)

1.12 Noting with concern that digitization and restoration work in the NFAI has come to a standstill during the last two years pending implementation of NFHM, the Committee had emphasised that NFHM must be launched without any further delay.

1.13 The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, in their Action Taken Reply has stated that Planning Commission has accorded in-principle approval of the Scheme. Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) Memo along with Budget component of the scheme has been prepared. EFC in its meeting held to appraise the National Film Heritage Mission, has recommended the implementation of the scheme for consideration of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA). However, an additional component has to be added in the scheme, for which file has again been referred to Finance Ministry. Ministry of Finance has approved the additional component. Cabinet note on NFHM will be submitted shortly to CCEA for its approval. Orders will be issued once the Cabinet Committee has approved the proposal.

1.14 The Committee, while taking note of the steps initiated with regard to launch of NFHM by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, are however, not satisfied with the slow pace of the progress for launching National Film Heritage Mission due to which all the restoration and digitization work in NFAI had also come to a standstill. The Committee, therefore, while reiterating their earlier recommendation, urge the Ministry to operationalise and implement

NFHM without any further delay lest the valuable treasures of the past are lost to posterity. They would like to be apprised of the current status in the matter within a month of Presentation of this Report to the Lok Sabha.

D. Filling up of Vacant Positions in NFAI

(Recommendation Para No. 5)

1.15 Taking into account that the posts of Director and Deputy Director-cum-Curator have been lying vacant since 2008 rendering NFAI headless during the last five years. Moreover, 18 posts being vacant against the total sanctioned strength of 49 both in its administrative and technical wings affected the proper functioning of NFAI adversely in restoration and digitization work of films in NFAI. The Committee, in their Thirtieth Report had recommended that the authority to be vested with comprehensive review of NFAI should also make a thorough assessment of additional manpower required at different levels in NFAI. The Committee had also desired that in the meantime immediate steps be taken to fill up the post of Director and all other vacant posts in NFAI so that this will put NFAI in a position to discharge its functions effectively.

1.16 The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, in their action taken reply has stated that NFAI has a total sanctioned staff strength of 49. It is true that the post of Director has not been filled up on regular basis. However, Director, Press Information Bureau has been given additional charge of the post till regular incumbent is filled up. Ministry has already initiated action to fill up the post of Director, NFAI by issuing vacancy circular to fill up the post on regular basis. Action being also initiated to fill up the post of Deputy Director cum-curator through Direct Recruitment by UPSC and for filling up of Regional Officers post, which are deemed to have lapsed. As far as Group B, C and D posts are concerned, Ministry has given NOC to NFAI for approaching Staff Selection Commission (SSC) to fill up these posts. SSC has directed NFAI to revise the recruitment rules for filling up the posts. Ministry has examined the revised recruitment rules of Group B,C & D posts. Approval is being conveyed to NFAI to request SSC to fill up the post on urgent basis.

1.17 The Committee note the various measures initiated by the Ministry to fill-up the vacancies in NFAI. Given the fact that none of these has culminated into a cogent outcome, the Committee desire that the Ministry and NFAI to complete all the requisite formalities and

requirements with a sense of urgency so that the requisite vacancies including the Director and Deputy Director are filled up without further loss of time.

E. Lack of Sufficient Funds for Grant of Research on Films

(Recommendation Para No. 6)

1.18 Finding that promotion of 'film studies' is a neglected area in the scheme of things of NFAI given the fact that only seven research fellowships have been given during the last 10 years and no research fellowship was granted during the years 2009-10, 2011-12 and 2012-13 and very few Indian universities offered research work on films, the Committee desired NFAI to explore ways and means to encourage film studies in the country. The Committee also wanted to know as to why the issue of delegation of enhanced financial power to Director, NFAI had not been sorted out as it was stated to be one of the reasons for not launching of research fellowships on films during the 12th Five Year Plan.

1.19 The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in its Action Taken Reply has stated that at present Director, NFAI has been delegated with a financial power of ₹ 24,000/- per year plus ₹ 8000/- as incidentals for Research fellowship. The proposal for enhancing the power to ₹ 60,000/- per annum plus ₹ 25,000/- as incidentals has not been agreed to in the Ministry during a review last year. Now, the proposal of NFAI for enhancing financial powers is being reconsidered. Advisory Committee is also being reconstituted.

1.20 The Committee are not at all satisfied by the reply furnished by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting that the proposal for enhanced financial powers to the Director is still under reconsideration of the Ministry. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier Recommendation that the financial powers of the Director, NFAI be suitably enhanced expeditiously so as to promote film studies and research. They would also like to be apprised of the action taken in the matter at the earliest.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 1)

The National Film Archive of India (NFAI) was established in the year 1964 with the objective to trace, acquire and preserve the heritage of national cinema. The Committee's examination of NFAI reveals that it has miserably failed in achieving this objective. Admittedly, no substantial efforts to conserve our filmic heritage have been made in consonance with the volume of production. Consequently, less than 20 films out of the 1000 produced in the country during the Silent Era are available now. Even valuable films of the Sound Era, including ***Alam Ara (1931)***, the first talkie made in India, have reportedly been lost forever. Countless number of valuable items like screenplays, posters, stills, costumes, properties and vintage equipment have also been damaged or completely lost during the past decades. NFAI houses only 9000 movies whereas availability and condition of the rest of 34,000 movies is unknown. A vast majority of filmic material still remains untouched in private collections. All these indicate that something is seriously wrong in the functioning of NFAI. The Committee desire that the Government institute a comprehensive review of NFAI with a view to revamping the organization and ensuring that NFAI achieves the objectives for which it was established.

Reply of the Government

Ministry has undertaken complete review of National Film Archive of India (NFAI), including administrative issues and upgradation of infrastructure. A brief note is given below:-

Administrative issues: As far as administrative issues are concerned, the following action has already been initiated:-

- i. A circular inviting application to fill up the vacant post of Director, NFAI was issued on 23.6.2014.
- ii. Action is being initiated to fill up the Deputy director cum curator post through direct recruitment through UPSC.
- iii. Approval of the Ministry is being communicated to NFAI to request Staff Selection Commission to fill up the Group 'B' and 'C' posts on urgent basis.

Upgradation of infrastructure of NFAI including Jayakar Bungalow and setting up of digital library.

This 12th Plan scheme “Upgradation of infrastructure of NFAI including Jayakar Bungalow and setting up of digital library” is under implementation and the following works are planned to be completed during current financial year(2014-15) and next financial year:-

Phase I:

- (i) Water proofing treatment on roof, repairing & painting to basement film vaults, providing check drain for arresting leakages are being completed in Phase-I.
- (ii) The component of providing Digital Dolby system, procurement of 35mm projectors replacement of fire fighting systems, upgradation/replacement of air-conditioning system, replacement of DG set and HT panel, replacement of Halon gas are being completed.

Phase II:

Components :construction of security fencing, construction of cement concrete internal road, repair to existing approach road completed.

National Film Heritage Mission (NFHM):

- (i) An Advisory Panel under the Chairmanship of Secretary, I&B including eminent person from film industry will be constituted for assessing the work to be undertaken by NFAI under the scheme NFHM.
- (ii) Necessary provisions included for construction of additional film vaults in the scheme.
- (iii) Adequate Budgetary provision for Acquisition of material, procurement of digitization equipment, preventive conservation of films included under the scheme.

It is expected that the Committee’s apprehensions regarding NFAI will be adequately addressed through above schemes to be implemented by the Ministry.

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 4)

The Committee note that NFAI is facing infrastructural constraints. There is an urgent need to construct additional vaults, as the existing 16 specialized vaults in NFAI for storing color films are nearly full with film reels. Another area which need immediate intervention is replacement of air conditioning system of the film vaults which does not maintain the required temperature and relative humidity and consumes excess electricity due to its over utilization of around 20 years. There is also a need to upgrade the sound system of NFAI main theatre with the Dolby Digital

sound system; procurement of two 35 mm projectors; and replacement of fire fighting systems. Upgradation/replacement of air-conditioning system in NFAI is stated to have been included under 12th Five Year Plan as a full-fledged Plan Scheme. The Committee urge that immediate measures should also be taken to construct specialized vaults in a phased manner and to procure projectors and sound system needed for NFAI to enable it to function effectively.

Reply of the Government:

As informed in reply to para 1, Ministry has initiated various steps for the upgradation work going on in Phase I of the 12th Plan scheme. The major components are as follows:-

Phase I:

- (i) Water proofing treatment on roof, repairing & painting to basement film vaults, providing check drain for arresting leakages are being completed in Phase-I.
- (ii) The component of providing Digital Dolby system, procurement of 35mm projectors replacement of fire fighting systems, upgradation/replacement of air-conditioning system, replacement of DG set and HT panel, replacement of Halon gas are being completed.

Phase II:

Component construction of security fencing, construction of cement concrete internal road, repair to existing approach road completed.

The 16 new vaults commissioned in 2nd phase during 11th Five Year Plan are maintaining world standards in humidity and temperature control.

In the proposed scheme under 12th Five Year Plan National Film Heritage Mission(NFHM), a new provision has been included for construction of additional film vaults at a cost of ₹ 30 crore. For construction of these additional vaults 1 acre of land has been sought from FTII Pune.

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 7)

The Secretary, Information and Broadcasting was receptive to the idea of uploading regional classics in the social media of the internet as it would ensure wider reach besides fetching revenue from downloads. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the MoIB (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting) should explore the possibility to optimize the use of social media

platforms of the Internet like YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, etc. as a way of popularizing and disseminating Indian Cinema all over the world. They would like to be apprised of the efforts made in this direction.

Reply of the Government:

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting already has a dedicated YouTube channel, and hits on this channel are growing day by day. There is also a social media cell which has been created in the Ministry in which Twitter, Blogs, Facebook, WhatsApp posts are updated on daily basis. The cell operates round the clock. Film Division of the Ministry has some good classics on the leaders of our freedom struggle and various legends in the field of music, dance etc., also news reels of 1940s and 1950s. Ministry has initiated action to popularize this content, on Ministry's social media platforms, as well as digitizing the content for disbursal through Films Division's own website.

CHAPTER III

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE
IN VIEW OF GOVERNMENT'S REPLY

-Nil-

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH GOVERNMENTS REPLIES HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 3)

The Government have envisioned a National Film Heritage Mission (NFHM) with an outlay of ₹ 597 crore and with the goal of synergising the isolated efforts of individuals and organizations in collection, conservation, preservation, commercial exploitation, studies and research under one umbrella. The Committee are disappointed to note that digitization and restoration work in NFAI has come to a standstill during the last two years pending implementation of NFHM. The Committee note that unless NFHM is launched immediately, the films and filmic materials collected by NFAI may be lost forever, due to hot and humid weather condition of our country. The Committee, therefore, emphasise that NFHM must be launched without any further delay and the Committee be informed of its implementation during the current year.

Reply of the Government

Planning Commission has accorded in-principle approval to the Scheme. Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) Memo along with Budget component of the scheme has been prepared. EFC in its meeting held to appraise the National Film Heritage Mission has recommended the implementation of the scheme for consideration of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA). However, an additional component has to be added in the scheme, for which file has again been referred to Finance Ministry. Ministry of Finance has approved the additional component. Cabinet note on NFHM will be submitted shortly to CCEA for its approval. Orders will be issued once the Cabinet Committee has approved the proposal.

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 6)

The Committee find that promotion of 'film studies' is a neglected area in the scheme of things in NFAI. Only seven research fellowships have been given during the last ten years. During the years 2009-10, 2011-12 and 2012-13 no research fellowship was granted to anyone. The Committee have been informed that only a very few universities offer research work in cinema.

The Committee feel that it is for NFAI to find ways and means to encourage 'film studies' and ensure that adequate research work is undertaken. The Committee would like to be apprised of NFAI's plans and proposals in this regard. Incidentally, the Committee would like to know why the issue of delegation of enhanced financial power to Director, has not been sorted out which is reportedly holding up launching of research fellowships during the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

Reply of the Government

At present Director, NFAI has been delegated with a financial power of ₹ 24,000/- per year plus ₹ 8000/- as incidentals for Research fellowship. The proposal for enhancing the power to ₹ 60,000/- per annum plus ₹ 25,000/- as incidentals has not been agreed to in the Ministry during a review last year. Now, the proposal of NFAI for enhancing financial powers is being reconsidered. Advisory Committee is also being reconstituted.

CHAPTER V

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF GOVERNMENTS ARE STILL AWAITED

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 2)

It is the duty of the Government to ensure that the Indian Film Heritage is passed on to future generations. The Committee have been informed that there is no legal compulsion on the part of the filmmakers or the whole film fraternity to contribute and preserve their films for posterity. With the result, countless number of films and filmic material appear to have been lost. This points to the need for modification in the existing film acquisition policy and incorporation of an appropriate legislative provision to ensure that the filmmakers/private collectors part with a copy of films to NFAI for preservation. It has been stated that though there is a film acquisition policy made in 1981, there is no policy on preservation and restoration of films. The Committee desire a comprehensive National Policy be formulated incorporating the existing film acquisition policy as may be modified and also covering other areas viz. restoration, digitization and preservation of films and filmic material.

Reply of the Government

Most producers tend to view film as commercial venture alone, much to the exclusion of the cultural aspect of cinema and have therefore not focused on its preservation needs. Also there is no legal compulsion on the part of the filmmakers to contribute by preserving their films for posterity.

The present Cinematograph Act was enacted in the year 1952. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice Mukul Mudgal in 2013 to examine various issues under the Cinematograph Act, 1952. The Committee revisited various aspects of films including need to archive films. The Committee submitted its report and the Ministry is in the process of introduction of Cinematograph Bill 2014. For the purpose of making films available to Government for archiving, without additional financial burden on acquisition in future, it is proposed to include a provision in the new Cinematograph Bill, that before issue of certificate by Central Board of Film Certification, the applicant or his

authorized representative shall deposit, at his own cost, a married print of the film in the same format in which it has been certified or in such other format, with such agency or agencies, as may be prescribed. The prescribed agency will be National Film Archive of India (NFAI). There is a 12th Plan project known as 'National Film Heritage Mission' which aims to restore, digitize and archive films for posterity. The Mission will have a High-level Committee which will strategize and develop a full-fledged restoration policy as per which important films will be taken up on priority basis for digitization and for restoration.

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 5)

NFAI is headless during the last five years. The posts of Director and Deputy Director-cum-Curator are lying vacant since 2008. With the result, the performance of NFAI has left much to be desired. NFAI is also constrained by shortage of manpower, both in its administrative and technical wings. There are 18 posts which are vacant against the total strength of 49 in NFAI. Consequently, work of restoration and digitization of films in NFAI is stated to have been adversely affected. The Committee desire that the authority that may undertake comprehensive review recommended by the Committee should also make thorough assessment of additional manpower required at different levels in NFAI. The Committee also wish that, in the meantime, immediate steps be taken to fill up the post of Director and all other vacant posts in NFAI. The Committee hope that with the appointment of Director and recruitment of additional staff, NFAI will be in a position to discharge its functions effectively.

Reply of the Government

NFAI has a total sanctioned staff strength of 49. It is true that the post of Director has not been filled up on regular basis. However, Director, Press Information Bureau has been given additional charge of the post till regular incumbent is filled up. Ministry has already initiated action to fill up the post of Director, NFAI by issuing vacancy circular to fill up the post on regular basis. Actions being also initiated to fill up the post of Deputy Director cum-curator through Direct Recruitment by UPSC and for filling up of Regional Officers post, which are deemed to have lapsed. As far as Group B, C and D posts are concerned, Ministry has given NOC to NFAI for approaching Staff Selection Commission (SSC) to fill up these posts. SSC has directed NFAI to revise the

recruitment rules for filling up the posts. Ministry has examined the revised recruitment rules of Group B,C & D posts. Approval is being conveyed to NFAI to request SSC to fill up the post on urgent basis.

NEW DELHI;
24th April, 2015
Vaisakha 4, 1937(Saka)

Dr. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI,
CHAIRPERSON,
COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES.

MINUTES OF TWENTY- SECOND SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES (2014-15)

The Committee sat on Friday, the 24 April, 2015 from 1000 hrs to 1100 hrs. in Room No. '62', Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi – Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Shri Dileep Singh Bhuria
3. Shri Ashok Chavan
4. Shri Col. Sonaram Choudhary
5. Shri P. C. Gaddigoudar
6. Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal
7. Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel
8. Shri P. Kumar
9. Shri K.N. Ramachandran
10. Shri Arvind Sawant
11. Shri Ganesh Singh
12. Shri Rajesh Verma

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Devender Singh – Additional Secretary
2. Shri Vipin Kumar – Director
3. Shri Srinivasulu Gunda – Additional Director
4. Shri U. C. Bharadwaj – Deputy Secretary

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the Sitting of the Committee.

(i) *****

(iii) *****

(iv) *****

5. The Chairperson placed on record the cooperation and valuable suggestions of the Members in the work of the Committee. He also thanked the Secretariat for their cooperation and assistance rendered to the Committee.

2014-15/Minutes/a

ANALYSIS OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE THIRTIETH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES (FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

(i)	Total number of Recommendations/Observations	7
(ii)	Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by the Government (Sl. Nos. 1, 4 & 7) Percentage of total Recommendations	3 42.85%
(iii)	Recommendation/Observation which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply Percentage of total Recommendations	Nil 0%
(iv)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee (Sl. Nos. 3 & 6) Percentage of total Recommendations	2 28.57%
(v)	Recommendation/Observation in respect of which final replies of Government is still awaited (Sl. No. 2 & 5) Percentage of total Recommendations	2 28.57%