

Many proposals for new industries were submitted to the Centre from time to time. But so far nothing has been done.

Therefore, I would request the Government to prepare a plan for the rapid industrialisation of Kerala and make adequate financial provision in the next year's budget.

- (viii) Demand for a high-powered Committee to study the economic crisis in the film industry and to advise for reduction of taxes and curbing of video piracy

SHRI SUNIL DUTT (Bombay North West): Indian Film Industry, the world's largest producer of motion pictures, is fighting a losing battle for its survival today. This crisis has been brought about by a number of factors, most notably, the high incidence of taxation, both at the Centre and in the States. The onslaught of TV and rampant video piracy have caused irreparable damage to Cinema. Uncertified, objectionable and undesirable films through video continue to be exhibited clandestinely all over the country undermining the cultural and social framework.

The 31 day strike of the film industry in Maharashtra—with 1200 cinema houses closed down, dozens of studios and laboratories shut out, three lakh daily wage earners out of work—stands as a test case before us to prove how badly the film industry is affected with unimaginative taxes on Central and State levels. The strike is now called off, but how serious is the Maharashtra government in their attitude to rescue the film industry is still to be seen. The entire film industry of India is looking forward to the outcome of the Maharashtra Government's deliberations. I have a fear, that if no proper solution is found by 15th of December, film industry will be forced to close down again, not only in Maharashtra, but in all other States, rendering 25 lakh people jobless and causing a considerable dent in the government revenue and sounding the death knell for Indian film industry. This is a forewarning to the House and the Government. Therefore, it is imperative that the manifold crisis of the film industry needs to be discussed at length in the House.

And this is my submission to the House and Centre that a very high powered Committee should be constituted consisting of prominent people of the film industry, the government, economists and people from Culture, to conduct a deep study of the film industry's economic crisis and to advise the governments at the Centre and the States to reduce taxes and also to curb effectively video piracy so that the Indian film industry survives.

- (ix) Demand for measures to improve the conditions prevailing in Ranchi Mental Asylum

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN (Etah): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the inhuman conditions prevailing in the Ranchi Mental Asylum present a very painful picture of the plight of the mentally ill inmates. Every third day a patient dies because of starvation. Governments of six States *viz.*, Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa, Tripura, Manipur and Mizoram, each having a share of beds in the hospital are supposed to contribute proportionately towards the expenses. It is most unfortunate that these six States cannot even provide food to the dying patients. From 1970 to 1980 an average of 82 patients died of malnutrition. Between 1981 and 1985 there have been 188 deaths each year and during the first half of this year there were 74 deaths. Whereas the living allowance of the staff has increased manifold, the patients maintenance cost remains unchanged. With an annual budget of Rs. 1 crore, Rs. 70 lakh is spent on establishment leaving only 30 per cent for the patients' medicines, food, clothing and maintenance of the asylum. The asylum faces acute crisis of drinking water; toilets are choked and broken, fans are not working; fused bulbs and tubes are not replaced and there are rusted and broken iron cots which were provided in 1925. Ironically, the patients are examined by a former patient of the asylum. There is rampant corruption among the staff in admitting patients.

The patients who require more humane treatment to bring them to sanity are starving to death. I would, through this august House, urge upon the Government