

SHRI A.K. PANJA : The pilot project is not a condensed form. Therefore, we are now asking for the total script so that there will not be any misgivings while projecting our national leaders. It has been stated by Mr. Basu that no step which has been taken, has been mentioned in the statement. Probably, Mr. Basu did not find time in the morning to go through the statement. Steps taken have been detailed here.

SHRI ANIL BASU : The statement was not available in the morning.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A.K. PANJA : The first step taken was that this was stopped so that we can have a review of the matter. The second was that this offending portion has been deleted even for archival purposes, that is where video films are sent. Third, the Committee and the Doordarshan have been directed to take special care so far as telecasting of these programmes are concerned.

So far as Netaji's stature is concerned, it is not a question of a particular State or a particular community or a particular drawing room of a particular leader. Nor should it be used for political purposes, or for any other gains. Netaji's struggle and Netaji's life is embodiment of the struggle for freedom all over the world, wherever the people are struggling for freedom. That is the stature in which, through the history, like a shining glory, Netaji's is living in the human mind where there is human bondage, we find Netaji along with our national leaders coming with full glory.

I hope the steps taken by the Government up to today will satisfy the Members of the House and I can assure that already guidelines laid down would be implemented strictly whenever we depict our national leaders for being telecast through our television.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW (Dum Dum) : Are they bold enough to congratulate the Minister for making a reply? *(Interruptions.)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please, order. Please listen to the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the revised video tapes be made available to us?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I propose that the House may sit through Lunch today.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : So, I think, we are not going to have our lunch-hour now. It is because, many Members want to speak on the Railway Budget and also the Minister wants to reply at 5 O'clock today. You can have lunch. But the House will not adjourn for Lunch.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Should we forego our lunch to pay more to the Railways?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You can have your lunch.

13.16 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : "NEW INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR SHIP FINANCING"

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : The Shipping Development Fund Committee (SDFC) was established by the Government in 1959 initially to finance acquisition of ships and subsequently, fishing trawlers, from local shipyards and from abroad. Over the years, apart from promoting a significant increase in national tonnage both in the general Shipping Sector and in the fishing trawler industry, the SDFC has contributed significantly to the emergence of India as one of the chief maritime nations in the developing world.

[Shri Janardhana Poojary]

In recent years shipping industry has passed through a very difficult period in view of the world-wide recession and sharp decline in freight rates. This has imposed a considerable financial burden on SDFC and has affected its ability to finance new ship acquisitions. It has, therefore, become necessary to evolve a new financing mechanism for extending adequate support to shipping and trawlers industries. After a careful review, it has been decided to wind up SDFC and to create a new financing agency in the place of SDFC which would have wider financial responsibilities and greater flexibility of operation. The new financial agency will manage the assets and liabilities of the SDFC and finance fresh ship acquisition on the basis of their viability. All India financial institutions will contribute to the equity of the new agency and the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India is being entrusted with the responsibility of promoting this agency.

The new company would extend financial assistance to shipping and trawling industries for acquisition of vessels in India and abroad. While the proposed company would function on sound commercial basis, the requisite level of concessions/support to the shipping and fishing industries would be continued to be extended in a manner to be decided by the Government. Ministry of Finance, Department of Surface Transport, Ministry of Agriculture, will have representatives on the Board of Directors on the new company.

Pending establishment of the new company, ICICI itself will undertake review of all existing cases of SDFC and also receive and process applications for fresh loans from the shipping and trawling industries for acquisition of vessels. It is expected that the new company will be set up and commence lending operations before the end of 1986.

The new institutional arrangement is expected to serve as an effective instrument for development of modern and efficient shipping and trawling industries on a viable basis.

13.18 hrs.

STATEMENT REGARDING
RATIONALISATION OF NEWS-
PRINT DISTRIBUTION IN THE
COUNTRY

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): As the Hon'ble Members of this august House are aware the issue of rationalisation of the distribution of newsprint in the country with a view to removing certain existing lacunae has been under the consideration of the Government for sometime past. The Government have in this regard considered in detail various alternatives for evolving a Policy for distribution of newsprint in a rational manner. I am happy to inform this august House that based on these deliberations, the Government have finalised the Newsprint Allocation Policy to be applied for the licencing years 1986-87 and 1987-88.

The salient features of the Policy are :

- (i) The Policy is based on the principle of self-reliance. The imported newsprint will supplement the domestic production ;
- (ii) It is essentially a need-based Policy. Each newspaper will be supplied newsprint as per its own requirement based on actual performance. This is consistent with the Government's commitment for promoting the growth of the Press ;
- (iii) Due to constraints of foreign exchange resources, it had not been possible to service the entire newsprint allocated to the newspapers since 1982-83. The newspaper industry has been agitating for releasing this backlog. After a careful consideration- it has been decided that the entire accumulated backlog of unserved newsprint from 1982-83 onwards