

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

1

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, July 6, 1977/Asadha 15, 1899  
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the  
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Guidelines for Films

+

\*344. SHRI NIHAR LASKAR;

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

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

(a) whether Government propose to  
issue any new guidelines for films;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) the time by which the final de-  
cision in this regard is likely to be  
taken; and

(d) whether recommendations of the  
Khosla Committee will also be taken  
into consideration before issuing the  
guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION  
AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K.  
ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). These have not yet been  
finalised. They will take into account  
the recommendations of the Khosla  
Committee. They will be able to fi-  
nalise the revised guidelines shortly.

1218LS-1

2

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR: There is  
the Film Censor Board and there is  
also the Cinematograph Act. In spite  
of all these, what we see in all these  
productions, particularly Hindi films,  
is more and more violence and sex. I  
believe, they have a part to play for  
our country—by producing healthy  
and good films. I would like to know  
from the Minister what is their atti-  
tude in this regard and how Govern-  
ment intend bringing them within the  
provisions and ensuring production of  
good films.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: Government  
is fully conscious of the need to ensure  
that films which have a very deep in-  
fluence on young minds particularly  
should not have any depraving charac-  
ter. But in this matter it is the Cen-  
sor Board essentially which helps to  
determine the character of every indi-  
vidual film.

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR: In our coun-  
try we do not find any good children's  
film. Are you thinking of arranging  
to produce good films for children?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: Government  
would like to revitalise and revamp  
the functioning of the Children's Film  
Society which is specifically entrusted  
with the job of making children's  
films.

SHRI R. K. MHALGI: May I know  
whether Government will take into  
confidence the film producers before  
issuing such guidelines?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: The proposal  
is to draft the guidelines, to draft the  
new approach, and then consult the  
various persons connected with the  
film medium.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR: The  
Censor Board allows such films which  
are having very bad effects on the

minds of the younger generation. Will the Minister kindly try to reorganize the Censor Board?

**SHRI L. K. ADVANI:** I have already said that the whole approach to censorship is being reconsidered, redrafted. In that the composition of the Censor Board would also be covered.

**SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:** The Censor Board is a big hoax. Certain criteria have to be established before the Censor Board takes decisions on films, namely, what effect or influence the film will have on the society of the country, and so on. But they seem to take decisions without considering anything. Therefore, certain good pictures are not being exhibited. In view of this position, I want to know what are the guideline of the present Government to improve the situation so far as the Censor Board is concerned. What are Government's concrete proposals in this regard?

**SHRI L. K. ADVANI:** The first complaint seems to be that very many bad films are being shown, and the hon. Member has also complained that good films are not being shown. I am sure, in that respect, the Censor Board does not come anywhere in the picture.

**SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:** I have called the Censor Board a big hoax. That is the position of the Censor Board. I would like to know what are the guidelines of this Government.

**SHRI L. K. ADVANI:** The function of the Censor Board is essentially negative—to prohibit a film or part thereof if, for example, it is against the interest or security of the country, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality or it involves defamation or contempt of court or is likely to incite commission of any offence. I have quoted from the Cinematograph Act which governs the function of the Censor Board. Essentially, it is a field of what is against decency or morality; that is

really the issue always; the other aspects are not so much important.

**SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:** This is being violated.

**SHRI L. K. ADVANI:** It would be the endeavour of the Government to ensure that this is not violated in any way. But the restrictions that the Government can impose can only be within the ambit of clause 2, article 19, which says that the restrictions should be reasonable.

**SHRI BASHIR AHMAD:** Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that the giving of National Awards is leading to bickering between the various producers and, therefore, the sooner it is abolished, the better?

**SHRI L. K. ADVANI:** This does not arise from this question.

**SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA:** Does the Minister know that there was a film called 'Sanskar' which was rejected by the Censor Board but, when the same film was brought before the Minister, the Minister saw it and approved it; it then got not only the National Award but also an International Award. This shows how correct the decision of the Censor Board was! Would the Minister go into these things and rectify them?

**SHRI L. K. ADVANI:** The Government is aware of it. There are many cases where the decision of the Censor Board has been changed by the Central Government under the provisions of the Act.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : मिनेमा का आज जीवन के हर भंग पर बहुत ही प्रभाव पड़ रहा है। मंत्री महोदय ने जो गण इलाह-स की बात कही है क्या उसमें यह भी है कि स्कूल, कालेज के छात्रों के लिए ऐसे मिनेमा बनाये जायें, जिससे देश की नागरिकता, राष्ट्रप्रेम, शिक्षा और कामकाज में जो परिवर्तन आ रहे हैं, उसके अनुसार उन पर प्रभाव पड़े ?

श्री लाल कृष्ण अडवानी : मैं माननीय सदस्य से महमत हूँ कि इस प्रकार की प्रावश्यकता है। मैंने जैसा पहले कहा छात्रों के लिए तो नहीं, लेकिन बच्चों के लिए चित्रित फिल्म सोमाइटी का गठन किया हुआ है, जिसकी गतिविधियाँ कई वर्षों से चल रही हैं, कभी ठीक प्रकार से और कभी मन्द गति से। सरकार की कोशिश यह होगी कि इस सोमाइटी का इतना प्रास्ताह्न मिले कि यह योग्य रूप में सही काम कर सके।

गाइडलाइन्स में हम चाहेंगे कि जो प्रिन्ट्स फिल्म और यूनिवर्सल फिल्मस का डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन किया है उस स्ट्रिकटली एडहोवर किया जाए, जिससे युवकों और बच्चों पर उनका गहन प्रभाव न पड़े।

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: The Censor Board, as you have said, is meant to maintain a healthy trend. But, unfortunately, there is corruption in the Censor Board. This is especially so in the case of Indian films; the Madras Censor Board is full of corruption.

Apart from this, I would like to know from the Minister whether the present Government proposes to continue the licensing system for the production of films. The new excise duty that has been introduced and the new rule for production of films is completely eroding the freedom of the mass media. May I know whether it is the policy of the Government to control the film industry through the licensing system?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: There is no licensing.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Yes, there is a licensing system because of the excise duty; every producer has to take a licence to produce a film. Will the Minister use his good-offices to see that the freedom of the mass-media is maintained?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to control the film media. It is of course Government's endeavour to see that the film media make their contribution with a sense of social responsibility for inculcating the right values in the country.

डा० बापू कालबाते : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि खामला कमीशन ने क्या चुम्बन का चित्रण करने की रिकमैण्डेशन की है? यदि हाँ, तो उसके बारे में मन्कार का क्या विचार है?

श्री लाल कृष्ण अडवानी : खामला कमेटी की रिपोर्ट में बहुत सारी सिफारिशें की गई हैं और एक प्रकार से यह दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि उन सारी सिफारिशों में से एक ही बात को लेकर उस पर चर्चा होती रही है। मैं समझता हूँ कि उसमें भी उमका दृष्टिकोण यह है कि किसी फिल्म को समग्र रूप से देखा जाना चाहिए, किसी एक सीन के आधार पर निर्णय नहीं करना चाहिए।

श्री विजय कुमार मलहोत्रा : जो गाइडलाइन्स बताई हैं, उसमें वायोलेंस के बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा गया है। क्या मंत्री महोदय इस बात को देख रहे हैं कि भारतीय पिक्चरों में यह चीज न हो? जो गाइडलाइन्स इंडियन पिक्चर्स के बारे में रखी गई हैं, क्या वह इम्पॉर्ट, विदेशी पिक्चरों के बारे में भी लागू होंगी? ऐसा लगता है कि अभी यह लागू नहीं की जा रही है, क्या मंत्री महोदय इस बात को देखेंगे?

श्री लाल कृष्ण अडवानी : हिंसा के संबंध में गाइडलाइन्स दी गई हैं। प्रलंबता पिछले दिनों एमर्जेंसी के दौरान कुछ और निर्देश दिए गए थे जिनके अन्तर्गत हिंसा को क्वांटिफाई करने की कोशिश की गई थी और यह कहा गया था कि 6 मिनट से ज्यादा हिंसा नहीं दिखाई जा सकती। इस सरकार.

का मत है कि हिंसा घाघे मिनट के लिए भी बहुत बीभत्स हो सकती है। उसका विपरीत परिणाम मन पर हो सकता है और दस मिनट भी अगर मुक्केबाजी चलनी रहती है तो उसका कोई विपरीत परिणाम नहीं हो सकता है। इसलिए उसको क्वॉटिफाई करना उचित नहीं है। तो क्वॉटिफिकेशन छोड़ कर यह कहा गया है कि बोमन्स दृश्य या ऐम दृश्य जिन में वायलेस का क्वॉटिफिकेशन होता है, ऐसे दृश्यों की अनुमति नहीं हानी चाहिए।

जहां तक हमारे भाग का संबंध है मैं इस मत का हूँ कि विदेशी समाज और भारतीय समाज के मूल्यों में जो फर्क है उसके कारण सेंसॉरशिप के स्टैंडर्ड में कुछ फर्क हो सकता है लेकिन इसके बीच कोई खाई बहुत बड़ी नहीं हो सकती।

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that those pictures which do not over-exhibit obscenity and violence are being very hard hit by the imposition of new levy in the last budget? If so, how does the hon. Minister propose to save such film makers, particularly the regional film makers who are trying to do something good for the country?

**SHRI L. K. ADVANI:** Several representations have been made by the film industry in respect of this.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** We know that it is a very important matter and let the hon. Minister say something about this and what he thinks about this?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question Hour is for seeking information, not for seeking his opinion.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** I am asking for information only.

**MR. SPEAKER:** You are asking for his opinion.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** Will the hon. Minister kindly inform the House as to what action he proposes to take to save such film makers who are doing a good job for the country?

**SHRI L. K. ADVANI:** As I have already said, on the issue of levy, several representations have been received and the Finance Ministry is considering them.

Keeping Amritsar Doordarshan Kandra at Delhi

\*346. **SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the circumstances and justification for keeping Amritsar Doordarshan Kendra at Delhi for such a long time;

(b) whether the retention of this centre is affecting the quality of Punjabi programmes produced with local talent and amounts to neglect of talent in the region for which it was established; and

(c) how long Government propose to keep this centre in Delhi?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण अडवाणी) : (क) मूल में अमृतसर प्रेषण केन्द्र को दिल्ली दूरदर्शन केन्द्र के विस्तार के रूप में स्थापित करने का विचार किया गया था। इसलिए अमृतसर में केवल ग्लोब मुविधाएं ही उपलब्ध की गई थी। कुछ पुनर्विचार करने के बाद, यह निर्णय लिया गया है कि स्थानीय संस्कृति को प्रतिबिम्बित करने वाले कार्यक्रम उपलब्ध किये जायें। अतः, अमृतसर में कार्यक्रम तैयार करने की मुविधाएं उपलब्ध करने की कोई योजना नहीं बनाई गई थी अतः इन कार्यक्रमों को दिल्ली दूरदर्शन स्टूडियो से उपलब्ध किया जा रहा है।

(ख) जी, नहीं।