

बगर उस नै हिसाब लगा कर आयात किया होता, तो इत्याद के उत्पादन में यह कमीती करने की बीमत न जाती। मंत्री महोदय नै इस प्रश्न का स्पष्ट उत्तर नहीं दिया।

क्या यह सत्य है कि 1977-78 में जब इत्यात फालतू था, तब सरकार नै उस का बकर स्टॉक नहीं बनाया और आज जब उस की कमी है, तो वह बकर स्टॉक बना रही है? मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन समय सरकार की बकर स्टॉक बनाने में क्या दिक्कत थी।

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: If the hon. Member had asked me this question about one and half years back, it would have had some validity. Nobody plants on hind-sight; hind-sight is welcome but it is not useful here. At that time there was surplus stock, unsold stock and we were exporting one million tonnes. World recession was there in steel therefor the question was how to dispose that of. To say, now that we should have held back that for two years as buffer stock and that we should have know that the cut will be made 20 per cent instead of 7 per cent is something which probably a clairvoyant can do, but not the ministry or the planning commission. As I said earlier, the import of coal which was planned had also not arrived in time because there was a strike in the Australian coal fields. We have no handling equipment in our ports and it is all done by head loading. Therefore, one 30,000 tones ship takes thirty days for unloading in Paradip and in Haldia the better managed Bangal labour takes more than sixty days. I think Shri Samar Babu is listening to my comments that is the position of the country's ports in this zone. All these factors plus not sufficient production of coking coal have been contributory causes.

SHRI VINODBHAI B. SHETH Government has taken a decision to import old ships from abroad with a view to scrap them and meet the requirements of steel. I should like to know whether government will allow such ships which are bought as scrap to be used for shipping purposes if they are technically approved,

for two or three years before they are actually scrapped? Secondly, will the government import thermal plants against the export of iron ore in order to meet the requirement of steel in the country, as iron ore is ordinarily available in the country? To sum up, there are two points the scrapping of the ships after three years use and secondly to allow import of thermal plant or other equipments against export of iron ore to foreign countries.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: This is another question. But, nevertheless, whether it is a power plant, whether it suits us or not, that has to be considered technologically and price-wise. There is no difficulty in export of iron ore upto a certain extent without further investment. In fact we have been negotiating with certain countries for this purpose, but we have so far not found it fruitful.

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Changing of Norms of Film Censorship

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*28. **SHRI CHITTA BASU:**
SHRI S. R. DAMANI:

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

(a) whether Government have under consideration any proposal to bring about a basic change in the norms of film censorship; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The basic principles for the guidance of the Central Board of Film Censors in certifying films for public exhibition in India are laid down in Section 5B(1) of the Cinematograph

Act, 1952. Broadly a film shall not be certified for public exhibition by the Board if the film or part of it is against the interest of the security of State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality or involves defamation or contempt of court or is likely to incite the commission of any offence. Within the ambit of these broad provisions, detailed guidelines have been issued by the Government to the Board from time to time. The guidelines issued in 1960 remained operative until 1978. A comprehensive review was made with a view to enunciating the guidelines in such a manner that the concepts behind censorship are comprehended as a whole and not in bits and parts. The recommendations contained in the Report of the Enquiry Committee on Film Censorship and the views expressed by the film industry and the Central Board of Film Censors were noted and new guidelines were issued in January, 1978. The new guidelines are simple and are aimed to ensure that the medium of film remains sensitive to the values and standards of society, that artistic expression and creative freedom are not unduly restricted and that censorship is responsive to social change.

2. The new guidelines are as under:—

(1) The objectives of film censorship will be to ensure that—

(a) the medium of film remains responsible and sensitive to the values and standards of society;

(b) artistic expression and creative freedom are not unduly curbed; and

(c) censorship is responsive to social change.

(2) In pursuance of the above objectives, the Board of Films Censors shall ensure that—

(i) anti-social activities such as violence are not glorified or justified;

(ii) the modus operandi of criminals or other visuals or words likely to incite the commission of any offence, are not depicted;

(iii) pointless or avoidable scenes of violence, cruelty and horror are not shown;

(iii-a) Scenes which, have the effect of justifying or glorifying drinking are not shown;

(iv) human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity and depravity;

(v) visuals or words contemptuous of racial, religious or other groups are not presented;

(vi) the sovereignty and integrity of India is not called in question.

(vii) the security of the State is not jeopardised or endangered;

(viii) friendly relations with foreign States are not strained;

(ix) public order is not endangered;

(x) visuals or words involving defamation or contempt of court are not presented.

(3) The Board of Film Censors shall also ensure that the film—

(i) is judged in its entirety from the point of view of its overall impact; and

(ii) is examined in the light of contemporary standards of the country and the people to which the film relates.

3. The Guidelines having been revised only last year, Government has at present no proposal to bring about any change in the norms set out above.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: In the statement the hon. Minister has said—

“Broadly a film shall not be certified for public exhibition by the

Board if the film or part of it is against the interest of the security of State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality or involves defamation or contempt of court or is likely to incite the commission of any offence."

May I know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware of the fact that in spite of these guidelines or norms the films which are crime and sex biased are proliferating. If that is so, whether there is any provision of not certifying any exhibition of the film of such a nature. If so, whether any such certification has been rejected during the past few years on this ground.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: I would like to clarify in this regard that even though very clear guidelines have been issued to the Censor Board and to the Censor panels and they are trying to implement it very precisely, very thoroughly, there have been problems arising out of certain court interpretations of what is a reasonable restriction. After all, censorship of films derives its authority and sanction from the reasonable restriction, phrase in Article 19. Only lately a horror film was refused a certificate and when it went to the court, the court held that with the cuts that the producer was willing to undergo, after that there should be no objection. The Censor Board, because of the court decision and directions, had to give a certificate. The Censor Board itself was inclined to de-certify the film completely. It was not willing to accept the film on the basis of those cuts. So, the guidelines as well as the law are the constraints under which the Censor Board functions. On our own we have been trying to see that vulgarity, obscenity are curbed and violence and horror and such influences that affect badly the younger generations particularly are curbed. This is the approach.

SHRI CHITTA BASU It also refers to the two sets of guidelines. One

is of 1960 and another is of 1978. The hon. Minister claims that the guidelines of 1960 remained unchanged till 1978. May I know from the hon. Minister, the guidelines which have been accepted in the year 1978 are to what extent different from those of 1960? Would the hon. Minister be kind enough to give a comparative analysis of the two sets of guidelines—1960 and 1978? Left to me I would say, the screen did not reflect any difference from 1960 to 1978.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: On an earlier occasion, as far as I recall, I had given to the House both the sets. But if the set of guidelines issued in 1960 are to be laid on the Table, I am willing to place it on the Table. They are elaborate, very elaborate, whereas the 1978 guidelines are compact and concise. These guidelines were drawn up after consultation with the Censor Board itself. The new Censor Board was constituted in December, 1977 and they were asked to undertake an exercise and make recommendations to the Government as to what the guidelines should be. With some minor alterations in the draft they had proposed, these guidelines had been issued.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: May I know whether after these guidelines had been introduced, the Minister has seen any film to ascertain the effect of these guidelines? The words used in the guidelines are so vague that they are not going to affect the violence in the films and it is continuing. Therefore, I would like to know if the Minister has personal experience in this regard so far as the effectiveness of the guidelines is concerned? Secondly, if the guidelines are not being effective, will Government consider taking over the distribution system so that such films are not being produced because it is affecting the morale of the public?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: The hon. member has made a very valid point, though I would say that it would not

be possible for me to see a few films and decide just on that basis. What has been done is, at the initiative of the Censor Board itself, the Institute of Mass Communication has been requested to undertake a systematic survey of the impact that the changed guidelines have had and the response of the audiences to the changes.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: My second question has not been answered, whether Government will take over the distribution system if the guidelines are not being effective?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: It does not arise from this question on censorship.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: In his enthusiasm for preserving the culture and samskriti, is it a fact that in one of the guidelines it has been stated that when swimming scenes are to be shown, the censors must see to it that women are not clad in a manner which according to the guidelines would be objectionable?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: In the statement that I had laid on the Table of the House, the hon. member would see that there is no specific reference of this kind except saying:

“visuals or words contemptuous of racial, religious or other groups are not presented;

human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity and depravity.”

This is the guideline that has been issued.

श्री अन्न शोहर सिंह : माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि कुछ गाइडलाइन्स 1978 में ईशू की गई थी, लेकिन भजे बढ़ता गया, ज्यों ज्यों दबा की। ज्यों ज्यों मंत्री महोदय गाइडलाइन्स ईशू करने जा रहे हैं, त्यों त्यों फिल्मों के जरिये अपराधी मनोवृत्ति बढ़ती जा रही है और अपराध भी बढ़ते जा रहे हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, सबसे चिन्ता की बात यह है कि मंत्री जी के रहते हुए सत्यम् शिवम् सुन्दरम् जैसी फिल्में चल रही हैं। गाइडलाइन्स भी ईशू हो रही हैं और उस

पर भी ऐसी फिल्में फार एवस्ट लिख कर चलाई जा रही हैं। क्या मंत्री महोदय कोई ऐसा रास्ता निकालने की कोशिश करेंगे कि सेंसर बोर्ड की तरफ से ऐसी फिल्मों के दिखाये जाने पर रोक लग सके ?

श्री लाल कृष्ण आठवाणी : मैंने पहले बताया था कि यदि ऐसी कोई फिल्म प्रदर्शित हुई है जो आपत्तीक है, तो ऐसी फिल्मों को रोकने के लिये निर्देश दिये गये हैं। सेंसर बोर्ड फिल्मों के स्लेबन में काफी सावधानी बरतता है और जहाँ कोई गलती होती है उस को दुरुस्त करा देता है।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

POWER SHORTAGE IN THE STATES

*21. **SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned “5-day power cut for industries in Maharashtra” published in the *Hindustan Times* (New Delhi edition) of 17th June, 1979;

(b) whether such power shortage has also effected domestic and industrial units in the other States and Union Territories in the country.

(c) what is the State-wise requirement of power and the availability thereof; and

(d) what measures have been taken or are proposed to be taken to ensure adequate supply to all the States and the Union Territories in the country?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The Government is aware of this news item.

Maharashtra State Electricity Board notified the power cuts with effect from 17th June, 1979 when hydel generation had to be reduced drastically as a result of depletion of hydro reservoirs due to delay in monsoons. These cuts were withdrawn partly and restrictions relaxed in stages with effect from 22nd June, 79, even though