

SHRI K. C. PANT : I did say that we should aim at achieving very high levels of technological performance in the Vijayanagar steel plant. Korea also has achieved high levels of technological performance in the steel plant; but this is not Korean technology as far as I know. It is a question of attaining high levels of performance and we will certainly attempt to do that right from the starting.

Production of Feature Films by Government

***211. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plans to produce feature films on subjects and themes not covered by private film producers so far; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government of India does not produce feature films. However; National Film Development Corporation, a Public Sector undertaking under the Government of India does finance production of films, in suitable cases.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Feature film is a powerful communication medium. Government has no doubt produced certain documentaries on the lives of certain national figures. But these documentaries don't create that much of impact as you would like to have through the medium of feature films. Therefore, I would like to make a suggestion. I would like to ask the Minister whether he would consider the suggestion of making a full length feature film on the life of our late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi titling it, as you may please, "Indira's India" or otherwise—full length feature film on the life of Smt. Indira Gandhi—because the private film producers create a mess as you have already seen.

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : It is a suggestion for action. As I have said the

Government of India or the Ministry itself does not produce any feature films. If at all it is to be done, it has to be done by NFDC with some collaboration.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Would you request the National Film Development Corporation to consider this project ?

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : In a proposal like this, there are various considerations which have to be weighed. For example, a kind of feature film was produced on Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru. We have already assigned, as you are probably aware, to Shri Shyam Benegal, a series on "Discovery of India of Punditji" which has five thousand years of vision of history. This is not a project which can be done in one day or two days. It will have to be studied carefully.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : I hope the Minister will agree that most of the feature films produced by private producers do not give proper projections of our country and the films which have been produced by the NFDC—some of them are of high order—are not shown to the people at large because the private distributors are not prepared to accept them. Therefore, they are showing some of these films on TV occasionally but these films don't reach the public at large. Do the Government have any proposal to produce feature films which I welcome ? Do they have a proposal to see that private films produced by NFDC and other producers which give proper projections of this country can be shown to the people either through construction of some auditorium or giving some benefits to them ?

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : As the hon. Member knows cinema is a State subject except censorship—the Board of Censor. What NFDC does is to finance good films. As far as theatres are concerned, for construction of theaters loans are given. The third thing which we have started and which you yourself have mentioned is that earlier the TV used to pay a certain amount. Now we have started a system that if a serious or an art film is produced which may not be commercially successful if it is offered to us as a premier show on TV we

consider it showing on TV and pay Rs. 8 lakhs. Another thing which we have started is tele film. The trend seems to be that an average viewer is reluctant to see a film of two and a half hours or three hours. Therefore, a ninety minute film, which is called tele film of high artistic and cinematic value is also considered and already three or four such tele films have been shown. The industry is in the private hands and Government itself does not produce. These are some of the ways by which we try to improve the quality and value of the films.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : Sir, these days the whole of the country is keen to face the challenge to our national integration and communal harmony. Sant Harchand Singh Longowal sacrificed his life for this motto. Will the Government think of having a film on his life to commemorate his contribution for the unity, integrity and harmony of the country?

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : Sir, this is a suggestion for action but I would like to acquaint the House with the efforts we have made through NFTC to help quality films. We have financed 100 per cent in such cases and I will give the names of two or three such films, viz, Adi Shankaracharya, Godan and Ghare Bhare of Satyajit Ray.

PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE : Why not Atinborough's Gandhi for the TV? It will be very popular.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, this year we are going to celebrate the 125th birthday of Shri Rabindra Nath Tagore. Has Government any proposal to ask NFTC to produce a feature film concerning his views and achievements for the nation?

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : Sir, again this is a suggestion for action.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Sir, the Minister has said about good films to be tele-cast on the TV. Now, two cases are there in front of us where the announcement was made, viz, Rajiv's India and New Delhi Times. So much publicity was given that they will be tele-cast but at the

last moment they were cancelled. It remained a mystery to us. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Who selected, how they were selected and why they were cancelled? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Sir, we want a reply.

MR. SPEAKER : Is it relevant to this question?

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : It does not arise out of this question.

MR. SPEAKER : You can put another question. I will allow that.

Legislation to Fix Urban Land Ceiling

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* 212. **SHRI D.K. NAIKAR :**
SHRI RAM SWAROOP RAM :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to bring forward any legislation to fix urban land ceiling, as has been done in the case of land ceiling;

(b) whether any committee has been appointed to go into the question; if so, what are their recommendations; and

(c) when the legislation is likely to be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOR) :
(a) The Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 enacted by Parliament on 17-2-1976 imposing a ceiling on vacant lands in urban areas is already in force in all the Union territories and States except Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu has its own State law which is in force from the 14th May, 1978.

(b) and (c). The question of making certain amendments in the Act is under consideration.