

Doordarshan at present, is much less than the ceiling prescribed for the purpose.

(c) All films intended for public exhibition in India are examined by the Central Board of Film Certification in accordance with the provisions of the Cinematograph Act 1952 and the guidelines issued thereunder. According to these guidelines, the Board, while examining the films for certification, shall *inter alia* ensure that anti-social activities such as violence are not glorified or justified; that the modus operandi of criminals or other visuals or words likely to incite the commission of any offence are not depicted; and that pointless or avoidable scenes of violence, cruelty and horror are not shown. Time and again, the Board has been requested to be very strict in applying the guidelines.

Violence and vulgarity in films

1580. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to check increasing violence, physical, abuse of women and children leading to vulgarity in the feature films;

(b) whether such films were also shown on National T.V. network:

(c) whether, in view of this, Government propose to reconstitute the Film Censor Board;

(d) whether the posters of the films are also screened by Film Censor Board; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take to stop these obscene posters and screening of vulgar films on National T.V. network.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) The guidelines issued by the Central Government to the Central Board of Film Certification under the Cinematograph Act, 1952 require that the Board shall ensure that human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity and depravity. The Board ensures that violence is not glorified or justified, women are not shown in ignoble servility, sexual violence against women is avoided and if inevitable such sequences are reduced to the shortest span.

A Committee, headed by Shri B.P. Singhal, Chairman, CBFC, has been constituted to suggest possible amendments to the Cinematograph Act and the rules/guidelines framed thereunder, to make the process of certification more effective.

(b) Doordarshan avoids telecast of such films and

(c) Government have recently reconstituted the Central Board of Film Certification.

(d) No, Sir. Film posters are not covered under the cinematograph Act, 1952.

(e) On Government's initiative the film industry has voluntarily set up film publicity screening committees for checking obscene posters and publicity material. Instructions issued to Doordarshan requires *inter alia* that scenes of vulgarity are avoided scrupulously in telecast of films on Doordarshan.

Damage to bridge over Manah river due to bomb blast

1581. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the major bridge over the river Manah in the Barpeta district of Lower Assam in the National Highway has been completely damaged by a bomb blast in the last month;

(b) whether Government are aware that the said bridge has not yet been reconstructed and as a result the traffic has been completely disrupted causing untold difficulties to the public;

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to restore the said bridge; and

(d) by when the restoration of the bridge would complete ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) One span of Manas bridge on N.H. 31 in Assam was damaged on 12-4-1990.

(b) and (c) A single lane Bailey bridge has been erected over the damaged span and traffic restored from 19-4-1990.

(d) Traffic which now passes over the undamaged spans and over the Bailey bridge would need to be diverted over an alternate temporary bridge. Steps for finalising such arrangements have been initiated. The restoration of the damaged span will be taken up after the traffic is diverted from the existing bridge. A meeting of the Assam Government representatives with the Government of India has been called for 24th May, 1990 to discuss the problems in New Delhi.

Demand for plebiscite in Kashmir

1582. **MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that certain Indian citizens are raising the demand for holding a plebiscite in Kashmir to determine whether the State should continue to remain a part of the Indian union or secede from it; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken to curb the anti-national activities of such citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) The consistent stand of the Govt. of India has been that Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part of India. Government are not aware of any demand for holding plebiscite in Kashmir being made outside the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) Government have taken stringent measures to curb secessionist and anti-national activities in Jammu and Kashmir and is keeping a close watch over the situation.

Indian Federation of Small and Medium Newspapers' dismay over import of second hand printing machinery

1583. **SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Federation of Small and Medium Newspapers have expressed dismay over imports of second hand printing machinery;

(b) if so, what were their precise objections ; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Newsprint quota to M/s Associated Journals Ltd.

1584. **SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Newsprint quota give to the M/s