

Striking down of enactments by the Supreme Court of India

1275. SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that quite a number of laws enacted by Parliament have been struck down or some of their provisions have been struck down by the Supreme Court of India; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any steps to ensure that a law enacted by Parliament is not struck down by the judiciary in any case?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIV SHANKAR): (a) No, Sir. Of the 1977 Acts passed by Parliament during the period 1950 to 1980, the Supreme Court has only on approximately 22 occasions invalidated a legislative provision.

(b) Under the scheme of the Constitution, the Supreme Court of India is entitled to pronounce upon the Constitutional validity of an Act of Parliament.

Loss suffered due to Illegal Screening of Box-Office hits

1276. SHRI HARVENDAR SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Exchequer is suffering huge losses due to illegal and unauthorised, screening of box-office hits from Bombay, if so, the details thereof during the last two years;

(b) what steps are being taken by Government to check this trend in the film industry;

(c) whether it is also a fact that large stock of excess raw films, which is hoarded by the film makers, is misused in this manner to make extra copies for such exhibition; and

(d) if so, whether steps will be taken to seize this stock of raw films?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (MISS KUMUDBEN M. JOSHI): (a) to (d). The information is being collected from the various States/Departments concerned and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of Fertilizers at Government controlled Factories

1277. SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE:

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken by Government to stabilise the production of fertilisers at various units of the Government controlled factories, where the production is at low level at present; and

(b) the expected loss of production by these units during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The requisite details are given below, unit-wise:—

Nagal (Expansion): Supplies of fuel oil/LSHS and coal have been augmented.

Batinda: Supplies of fuel oil/LSHS and coal have been augmented.

Panipat: Supplies of fuel oil/LSHS coal have been augmented.

Gorakhpur: Supplies of naphtha have been augmented; measures are underway to further increase the supplies of naphtha to enable the plant to run at optimum levels.

Sindri (Modernisation): Supplies of fuel oil/LSHS have been augmented.

Sindri (Rationalisation): The problems faced in the adjustment of the plant to pyrites based operations are being attended to; change-over of some