

SHRI A. M. THOMAS : Wherever possible we make them available from those depots depending on the convenience of Members, but this is because in case any particular Member finds it difficult to get from the depot of his choice because of the lack of availability of discarded vehicles in that particular depot.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: What is the break-up of the Members who purchase the jeep according to the political parties to which they belong?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: I do not think that requires any answer.

STANDARDS OF FILMS CENSORSHIP

•274. SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement made by the Spokesman of the Indian Motion Picture Producers Association appearing in the press on the 4th April, 1966 criticising the standards of film censorship relating to the Indian and foreign films; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The divergence of culture, and outlook on life in various parts of the world is necessarily reflected in the Films produced, which accounts for the present approach to the whole question of censorship of Indian and foreign films. The representatives of the Indian film producers have however been asked to give their views explicitly on this question and the matter will, however, be examined in the light thereof.

SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN: Whilst the Censors are taking a puritanist sensitive approach to scenes in

Indian films showing some natural postures and situations, they are permitting exhibition of highly exotic and sexy foreign films. May I ask whether there are two different sets of rules of censorship or the same rule is being applied rigorously in one case and liberally in the case of the other? If so, why?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : It is not correct to say that we are applying two separate sets of rules, because the rules are under the Cinematograph Act and as such they are made applicable. But the fact is that there are different standards of life and culture and ways of deportment that are reflected in the films of each and every country. Naturally there might be some difference in regard to that. But we have asked the film producers what changes they would like in this particular matter.

SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN: Is it not a fact that sexy foreign films and films of crime stories have become more popular, the number of theatres exhibiting them have doubled and earnings have soared? If so, is this not due to rigours of censorship on Indian films and uncontrolled exhibition of foreign films ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: We would not permit these particular tendencies on either type of films, whether foreign or Indian, if they are likely to affect the normal moral standards or lead to commission of crimes or offences.

SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN: It is said that film distributors from Britain and America not only receive a favoured treatment but have a monopoly to import foreign films, and these distributors are importing largely sexy and crime stories. In order to restrict such films and to create a proper balanced approach, why should not distributors from other countries like Russia, Italy and Japan be given similar rights ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: There is no discrimination in that particular matter. If there is any distributor

from Russia or other countries, they are certainly welcome. The question of standard of film censorship is quite different from the question of appointment of distributors.

SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN: What about monopoly ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: No monopoly is granted.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Is the Government aware that raw film is supplied to the producers without any restrictions in the beginning and it is only at the time of the censorship that the film in the produced form comes up before the Board of Censors? May we know why the Government is not proposing to bring before the Board the story or the theme of the film to be produced so that the raw film that is being imported is not wasted?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: That particular facility exists. That is at the option of the producer. If he wants to have his script or his film story vetted by the Film Censor Board or by the Government, that facility is there. But it is obvious that if any parts of a film are cut out, that also entails in fructuous and avoidable expenditure to the producer who is himself anxious to avoid it and who tries to abide by the rules as far as he can.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: I would like to know whether it has come to the notice of the Government that there is strong resentment against some portions in the film on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose which is being exhibited in Calcutta and what action Government have taken to allay that resentment.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: That has come to our notice. Fortunately or unfortunately, that was taken to a court of law and the court has pronounced its judgment on that particular matter and that is where the matter rests.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: One question which seems to be agitating the mind of the hon. Minister these days and on which he has been expressing himself very refreshingly is whether kissing should be allowed in Indian films or not. I should like to know whether the hon. Minister has come to any definite conclusion on this point.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : I need not come to any new conclusion because the rule in this respect is already there. It is not allowed. But I am glad to note the interest taken by the hon. Member in this matter.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, it is a reflection.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: We all share the disquiet of the hon. Member who tabled this question about the import of films from USA showing crime and sexy films, particularly giving prominence to crime. But may I know if the Government realises that no standard of quality can enable the Italian or French or Russian films to come to this country so long as English occupies the high pedestal that it does in the affairs of this country? And to see that these sexy and crime films from America are not imported in large numbers, is it not necessary that English is displaced from the high pedestal on which it stands today?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: There are many sections of the people who are keen on seeing films in English and they are allowed to be exhibited provided they do not infringe the rules on the subject.

राजस्थान क्षेत्र में पाकिस्तान की चौकियां

*275. श्री सुन्दर सिंह भण्डारी :
क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 25 फरवरी, 1966 को पाकिस्तानी सैनिकों ने राजस्थान के जैसलमेर जिले में घाटारू तथा शाहगढ़ चौकियों को खाली करने के बाद पश्चिम में