

RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, 11th March 1958

The House met at eleven of the - clock.
ME. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*322. [For answer, vide cols. 2573—76
infra.]

IMPORT AND EXPORT OF INDIAN FILM

*323. SHRI H. V. TRIPATHI: Will the
Minister of INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries which have
imported Indian films during the last five
years and the value thereof; and

(b) the names of the countries from which
films are being imported in India and the
value thereof during the last two years?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY
TO THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION
AND BROADCASTING (SHRI G.
RAJAGOPALAN): (a) A statement I showing
country-wise value of exports during
January—June 1957 is placed on the Table
of the House. Prior to 1957 separate
statistics of exports of cinematograph films
were not maintained.

(b) A statement II is placed on the Table of
the House.

STATEMENT I

Countrywise value of exports of
exposed Cinematographic films (whether
developed or not) during Jan-
uary—June 1957

Countries	Value in thousands of rupees
U.K.	277
U.S.S.R.	51
Poland	7
Germany (West)	20
France	55
Italy	28
Czechoslovakia	39

2 RSD.—1.

Countries	Value in thousands of rupees
Aden	287
Kuwait	97
Pakistan (West)	21
Pakistan (East)	69
Ceylon	881
Singapore	707
Malaya	25
Lebanon	55
Israel	31
Iran	445
Afghanistan	335
Burma	95
Indonesia	401
Thailand	221
South Vietnam	11
Cambodia	169
Nepal	116
Gold Coast	52
Kenya	31
Sudan	51
Tangier (Morocco)	44
Trinidad	40
U.S.A.	79
Turkey	12
Other countries	186
	4,959

STATEMENT II

Countrywise value of imports of
Cinematograph exposed films during
the year 1956 and 1957 (up to June
1957)

Country	Value in thousands of Rupees	
	1956 April—Dec- ember	1957 January— June
U.S.A.	1,040	541
U.K.	902	447
Pakistan	140	54
Hongkong	156	54
Ceylon	180	182
Burma	55	2
Belgium	69	..
France	24	..
Germany (West)	8	13
Japan	125	31
U.S.S.R.	59	58
Afghanistan	94	159
Poland	..	3
Other Countries	168	511
	3,020	2,055

H. V. TRIPATHI: What steps Government are taking to popularise the Indian films abroad?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: We have been sending out films to Film Festivals, participating in the Film Festivals. The private producers are also participating. Our documentaries are also taking part. Other than that, it is mainly the duty of the Commerce and Industry Ministry. They have to find out ways and means for export.

SHRI H. V. TRIPATHI: Are the Government proposing to take any steps to prevent the import of foreign films which are having disruptive effects or deleterious effects on the minds of the youth of this country?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That, I thought, was Shrimati Savitry Devi Nigam's point. He asks, are you taking any steps to prevent foreign films from coming here have a disruptive effect on the character of our youth?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: As far as disruptive effects of the films are concerned, the Film Censor Board take that into account and see that they are not passed for exhibition. As far as importing of these films is concerned, it is directly the concern of the Commerce and Industry Ministry.

SHRI H. V. TRIPATHI: Is there no liaison between the Commerce Department and the Information Department in this respect?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: As far as quantity of films to be imported is concerned, it is the responsibility of the Commerce and Industry Ministry which is taking various financial and trade aspects into consideration. As far as quality of films is concerned, there is certainly liaison between that Ministry and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

SHRIMATI AMMU SWAMINADHAN: May I ask how many of our Indian films have won prizes abroad when **they** were shown at some exhibitions?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: I require notice for that.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know the share of the U.S.A. in the film imports of India and also the percentage of gangster films in the imports from U.S.A.?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: It is given in the statement.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: From the statement it is obvious that only one-tenth of what we are exporting to Iran is being exported to Pakistan. In view of the fact of the commonness of language, may I know what steps are being taken to encourage more exports, especially to Pakistan.

DR. B. V. KESKAR: Export promotion, rather export of films in general, is the care of the various private producers themselves. Government are thinking of encouraging the export of Indian films to various countries. We have not yet finalised our steps as to what we should do in this regard.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: What steps? actually are we taking or what steps are being contemplated?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: When we have not finalised the steps, how can I say anything about it?

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: In view of the reply given by the Parliamentary Secretary just now that the Censor Board takes care of the films to see whether they are injurious or harmful to the youth of the country, may I ask, in view of the complaint made several times in the House, how many films has either the Minister or the Parliamentary Secretary seen which are imported, and which are said to have injurious effects?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you any personal knowledge of this, she asks.

DR. B. V. KESKAR: I have unfortunately to see a number of films

which might not be considered desirable but as a matter of duty I have to see them. I cannot say off-hand how many of them are foreign and how many are Indian but it is not possible physically for me to see all such films.

MR. CHAIRMAN: She says the Parliamentary Secretary also can see,

श्रीमती सावित्री निगम : क्या मैं यह जान सकती हूँ कि जब कोई भी फिल्म सेंसर बोर्ड के सामने दिखाई जाती है तो उसके बाद क्या आपके पास कोई ऐसी शिकायतें आई हैं कि सेंसर बोर्ड के पास कर देने के बाद उन फिल्मों में कुछ ऐसे पोर्शंस जोड़ दिये गये हैं जो कि बहुत ही हानिकारक हैं और बहुत ही नुकसानदेह हैं ?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: We do get complaints off and on regarding particular films and our procedure is that every such complaint is enquired into and where we find that the complaint is *bona fide* we certainly review the film and take whatever action is necessary.

श्रीमती सावित्री निगम : क्या मैं जान सकती हूँ कि इस वर्ष कितने ऐसे बेसेज में एक्शन लिया गया ?

(No reply)

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ KAPOOR: May I know whether the Government is considering any step in the direction of taking hold of the distribution of our films abroad as it involves the exchange question also?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: It is a suggestion for action.

SETTING UP OF INDUSTRIES AT GANDHIDHAM

*324. SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to put up any big industries in the

Kandla port area in order to develop the new township;

(b) whether funds have been sanctioned by Government for the establishment of an industrial estate at Gandhidham; and

(c) if so, which small scale industries have so far been started?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH) : (a) There is no proposal under consideration at present. Enquiries have, however, been received by the Township Administration from private parties for plots of land with a view to establish some industries.

(b) The Government of Bombay have a scheme for establishment of an industrial estate in Gandhidham. A loan of Rs. 1 lakh has already been sanctioned to the State Government for the initial stage of the scheme.

(c) Applications have been received for starting engineering and consumer goods industries on the estate in course of time.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: When was the money sanctioned, this one lakh?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: This sanction was in the course of the year and as soon as they utilise this amount, more will be released.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Is it a fact that the Government of Bombay sent an approved scheme with plans and estimates to the Government of India on the 20th September 1957 and nothing has been heard till now so far as the Port authorities are concerned?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That is not quite a fact. As a matter of fact the hon. Member fully knows that there are two aspects of this question. One is, when a private industrialist wants to establish a factory, Government have to sanction no money at all because it is for him to