

(*Shri E. K. Imbichibava put a question in Malayalam.*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mrs. Lakshmi Menon will please interpret it in English.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON : I could not hear the question properly.

(*Shri E. K. Imbichibava repeated the question in Malayalam.*)

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON : He asks, : Have the Government any arrangements for preventing the smuggling of arecanut from Pondicherry and other places into India ?

(*Shri D. P. Karmarkar replied in Kannada.*)

(*Laughter.*)

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : On a point of order. This is not fair. Although I understand what the hon. Minister said, I don't think it is fair. The hon. Minister knows English and also Hindi and he need not have taken recourse to Kannada, which I also can speak.

(*Shri E. K. Imbichibava again put a question in Malayalam.*)

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH : Sir, we could understand neither the question nor the answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing very much is lost.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : But what was the answer of the hon. Minister ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : We have no complaints about smuggling of arecanuts from Pondicherry.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : May I know what is the need of this country, in respect of arecanut ? What is the consumption in the country ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : At the moment we have no exact figures of consumption ; and the figures of production are also likely to be defective. But Government thinks that there is sufficient to be consumed in the country.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : Is it necessary to regulate the import in relation with the home consumption of nuts ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : Government have regulated it in the past and that was by imposing a deterrent import duty. Sometimes we have a feeling that we have been rather unfair to the consumers. As the hon. Member knows, the relative duties on arecanut now and pre-war is sometimes double or 400 to 500 per cent.

RUSSIAN FILMS

*184. SHRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN : Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of films produced in Soviet Russia that were permitted to be exhibited in India since 1950 ;

(b) the names of persons or firms who hold the distributing rights for the above pictures in this country ; and

(c) whether any attempt has been made to screen Indian films in Soviet Russia in order to interpret our country to the Soviet people ?

THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. B. V. KESKAR) : (a) 64 Russian films were certified for public exhibition by the Central Board of Film Censors from 15th January 1951, when the Board was constituted, up to 30th November 1952.

(b) Information regarding the persons or firms holding distribution rights in these films is not available as they are not required to register with government.

(c) Yes, Sir, but the only suitable films exhibited in Russia have been those shown by our Embassy in Moscow in their premises.

SHRI SHRIYANS PRASAD JAIN : How many films were banned ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is the question ?

SHRI SHRIYANS PRASAD JAIN : Sir, I want to know how many films from Russia have been banned? He said that 64 Russian films were certified.

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH : How many were rejected, he asks.

DR. B. V. KESKAR : I require notice, we have to collect the information.

SHRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN : Who is the person who imports the Russian films?

DR. B. V. KESKAR : I could not give a definite answer. I think there are two or three concerns running under various names which import these films and submit them to the Central Board.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Same firm under different names?

DR. B. V. KESKAR : That I don't know.

SHRI A. S. KHAN : Is there no system of reciprocity governing the exhibition of films in these countries?

DR. B. V. KESKAR : No; the laws in both these countries are quite different, and probably, as I have stated, we have shown certain films in our Embassy in Moscow. I am not aware whether we had any opportunity or occasion to make efforts to show at any other place. For that I will require notice and I will have to find it out.

SHRI R. U. AGNIBHOJ : May I know why Indian films were not shown at other places also?

PROF. G. RANGA : Because other places are not available.

SHRI B. RATH : Sir, were any.....

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, order.

DR. B. V. KESKAR : I don't know, probably facilities were not available in other places.

SHRI R. U. AGNIBHOJ : Do Government of India impose the same sort of restrictions or afford less facilities to Russian films in India as they are doing in Russia?

DR. B. V. KESKAR : The exhibition of films in India is by certification and it is done under certain laws. As I said, the distributors who distribute the films need not register with Government up till now; who they are, it does not matter. Only the film to be exhibited must be a film certified by the Central Board to the effect that it is fit for exhibition.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Did our Embassy approach Soviet film distributors in Moscow for facilities to show our Indian films?

DR. B. V. KESKAR : I would require notice.

SHRI S. N. MAJUMDAR : How many Indian films are shown in America?

DR. B. V. KESKAR : I would also require notice.

SHRI B. RATH : How many Indian films that were shown in *foreign* countries were dubbed in the language of that country?

DR. B. V. KESKAR : There have been certain number of films dubbed, but, I think the number is small.

SHRI B. RATH : How many Indian films were dubbed in the Russian language or in the languages of the constituents of the Republic?

DR. B. V. KESKAR : I will have to find that out, Sir.

SHRI B. RATH : Is it a fact that unless those films are dubbed in the languages of the countries in which they are to be shown, it is practically useless to show films in those countries?

DR. B. V. KESKAR : Sir, I think that information is kept in mind by those who send films outside the country for exhibition.

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN : Sir, is the Government aware that Dr. P. Subbarayan, former Indian Ambassador to Indonesia protested to the Central Board of Film Censors that the film "Life of Lenin" is a distortion of truth and history and contains merely propaganda to glorify Stalin, and, what action has the Central Board of Film Censors taken on it ?

DR. B. V. KESKAR : Yes, it is quite possible that the person named has protested to the Central Board of Film Censors, but, I would like to find out from the Board before answering.

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN : Sir, will the Government think of a proposal to see that the imported foreign films should go to the Foreign Affairs Department first and then should go to the Central Board of Film Censors ?

DR. B. V. KESKAR : That is a suggestion for action.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA : Sir, in case of Russian films what happens to the box office receipts ? Do they go to Russia ? How ?

DR. B. V. KESKAR : The money goes to the distributors first and I do not know where it goes from there.

SHRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN : Sir, is it a fact that almost all the Soviet films that have been exhibited in the country contain propaganda in favour of the Communist Party and glorify only Stalin and contain very little art or culture ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, order. Propaganda again.

IMPORT OF COTTON TEXTILES

*185. SHRI D. NARAYAN : Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any cotton textiles were imported from Britain during the last two years ;

(b) if so, what amount of cloth and yarn were imported in the years 1950, 1951 and 1952 ;

(c) what varieties of cloth were imported ;

(d) whether it is a fact that cotton yarn and manufactures, including 28 lakh square yards of woven mill goods were ordered from Britain during the first six months of 1952 ; and

(e) whether India still requires cotton cloth from outside ; if so, why ?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : (a), (b) and (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, Annexure No. 49.]

(d) Yes.

(e) Yes. Such varieties of yarn and cloth as are either not produced or are produced only in insufficient quantities are imported from outside.

SHRI D. NARAYAN : Sir, may I know how much cloth was sent to England during the last 8 months for printing ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : Sir, I have no idea about the exact amount of export but, I think we have exported some quantities.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : He wanted to know how much cloth has been exported for printing.

SHRI D. NARAYAN : How much cloth was exported during the last 8 months and brought back after printing ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : I am happy I am able to clear up. The hon. Member will find in the statement attached to this question that imports in 1950-51 amounted to Rs. 26,55,000 and odd and in 1951-52 to Rs. 47 lakhs. We put cloth on the free list in 1949 and certain cases remained undisposed for 2 1/2 years and it was about 5 or 6 months ago, we decided to allow cloth