

**March 15, 1973**

**Rajya Sabha Q&A on the Exclusion of Eastern India  
From the Nuclear Program**

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**Summary:**

Transcript of questions and answers between members of the Rajya Sabha and the Minister of Atomic Affairs, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, on excluding the Eastern region of India from the nuclear program due to economic reasons.

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**RELEASE OF PROCESSES DEVELOPED BY THE NATIONAL LABORATORIES**

\*520. SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the present procedure followed in the release of processes developed by the National Laboratories;

(b) whether there is any lacuna in the present procedure, if so, whether Government contemplates to effect certain changes in the existing procedure; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM) : (a) The processes developed by National Laboratories are normally released through the National Research Development Corporation of India (NRDC) under an agreement between CSIR and NRDC.

(b) The present procedure needs to be modified in respect of evaluation of processes/patents/know-how emanating from the National Laboratories.

(c) According to one proposed change, the processes will be evaluated by a single techno-economic group, jointly agreed to by the CSIR and NRDC, prior to its commercialisation through the NRDC of India.

**SHORTAGE OF CINEMA HOUSES**

\*521. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in a number of cases good films have to wait for a long time for being screened and exhibited due to shortage of the cinema houses in the country;

(b) how the average population to be catered by a cinema house in India compares with that in France, USA, UK, USSR and Japan; and

(c) whether any comprehensive national programme for construction of cinema houses is proposed to be launched during the 5th Five Year Plan, if so, the details of the programme, and the estimated cost of the programme and whether a certain

percentage of cinema houses are to be constructed in the public sector; if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI I. K. GURAL) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following are the comparative figures for 1970 :

Country	No. of cinemas	Seats per 100
France . . . . .	4,358	4.2
U.S.A. . . . .	14,420	4.9
U.K. . . . .	1,529	2.6
U.S.S.R. . . . .	157,000	Not available
Japan . . . . .	3,246	1.4
India . . . . .	7,140	0.8

(c) Cinema is a State subject. One of the recommendations adopted at the Conference of the State Ministers of Information held in New Delhi on December 8, 1972, was that the States should divert a fixed proportion of collections from entertainment tax for promoting the construction of more cinemas.

**†NUCLEAR POWER DEVELOPMENT**

\*428. SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY :  
SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI :  
SHRI KALYAN ROY :  
SHRI K. B. CHETTRI :

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Eastern region including West Bengal has been excluded from the recent nuclear power development programme; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor :

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not economical at the present stage to establish nuclear power stations in the Eastern Region.

†Transferred from the 12th March, 1973.