

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Pakistan TV has recently leased a transponder on ASIASAT for TV uplinking application. Since the usable contours of ASIASAT footprint cover the entire country except some parts of southern India, TV programmes transmitted by this satellite can be received by installation of an appropriately designed dish antenna indigenously available with the TV receiving set. However, the existing licensing procedure prescribed by the Ministry of Communications does not permit establishment of dish antenna for receiving of TV programmes from foreign satellites.

(c) in order to counter telecasts transmitted via foreign satellites Doordarshan is making all out efforts to bring about qualitative improvement in its programme format so as to sustain the interest of its viewers.

Screening of video film on dangers of Poisonous Pesticides

1309. SHRI PRABHAKAR B. KORE :
PROF. I.G. SANADI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a video film entirely financed by DST and produced by PTI-TV highlighting the dangers of poisonous pesticides and safe alternatives developed by ICAR has been widely appreciated and acclaimed ;

(b) whether Government will ensure its screening in colleges and schools and among farmers groups ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the video film was to be screened on the national programme on 12th September, 1991 but this was cancelled at the last minute; if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether a similar screening on Krishi Darshan in December, 1991 was also cancelled at the last minute, if so, whether an inquiry will be conducted in this regard ; and

(e) whether Government are aware that similar videos are being regularly shown on Star TV (BBC programmes) ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) to (d) Telecast of a documentary film 'The killing Fields' supplied by the Voluntary Health Association of India, New Delhi was scheduled by Doordarshan on 12-09-91 and 31-12-91. However the film could not be telecast as the copyright holder's status and the terms for payment of royalty etc. were not clear. The telecast of this film after completing the necessary formalities is however dependent on the programme requirement of Doordarshan. The right holder of the film can organise screening of the film in Colleges and Schools directly.

(e) Government are aware that programmes on environment/health related themes are telecast by various foreign television networks.

Commissioned serials on T V

1310. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated fresh guidelines in respect