

Exhibition of Pornographic Films

5246. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Malayalees as a whole are being maligned by certain agencies exhibiting pornographic films outside Kerala under the guise of permitted Malayalam movies;

(b) whether a number of Malayalees and Non-Malayalees outside Kerala have protested against the exhibition of filthy sex movies; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to punish and prevent those agencies exhibiting pornographic films under the guise of permitted Malayalam movies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL): (a) to (c). The Board of Film Certification and Government are not aware that the Malayalees as a whole are being maligned by certain agencies exhibiting pornographic films outside Kerala. However, reports are being received that some of the certified Malayalam films are being exhibited with titlating and often obscene English and Hindi titles in the advertisement material and that some films are being screened with interpolated material. The responsibility for enforcement of the penal provisions in the Cinematograph Act 1952 rests with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, as exhibition of films is a State subject. From time to time the Board of Film Certification and Government have brought the problem regarding censorship violations to the notice of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. In September 1983 the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting wrote to the Chief Ministers of all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations emphasising the need to enforce the provisions of the law. Further, the Cinematograph Act 1952 was amended by the Cinematograph (Amendment) Act

1984 (effective from 27.8.84) to provide for enhanced punishment for offences under the Act. Rule 38 of the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules 1983 was also amended to provide that advertisements about films shall indicate only the certified titles of films.

Soil Erosion in Keonjhar District of Orissa

5247. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the extent of damage caused to cultivable land due to soil erosion every year in Barbil, Joda, and Thakurani areas in Keonjhar district of Orissa; and

(b) if so, the specific steps taken to check soil erosion in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The problem mostly arises due to large scale mining operation in these areas. The debris brought out from mining areas spread over agricultural land down below. Also undulating terrain accelerates the process of soil erosion.

The State Government has formulated the proposals in the Seventh Plan for control of mine spoils in such areas so that anti-erosion works can be taken up. Finalisation of the proposals is awaited.

Unauthorised Encroachments between Mausam Vihar and Radheysham Park Extension Area

5248. SHRI LALA RAM KEN: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6562 on 11 April, 1983 regarding unauthorised encroachments between Mausam Vihar and Radheysham Park Extension Area and state;