Sbifting of T.V. Transmission Tower from Agra Town

5273. SHRI GANGA RAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any move to shift the T.V. transmission tower from Agra town to some other place;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the expenditure incurred on construction and setting up of the above tower;

(d) the anticipated expenditure on its removal;

(c) whether the above tower is being shifted to any place in Agra district; and

(f) if the above tower is to be shifted for technical reasons, why the same were not taken into consideration while formulating the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GAD-GIL): (a) and (b). The T.V. tower at Agra is about 3.5 Kilometre away from Taj Mahal and is visible in the background from some positions. However, the question of shifting the tower from its present site is being examined.

(c) The cost of the T.V. tower erected at Agra is Rs. 120 lakhs approximately.

(d) and (e). These are under examination.

(f) No technical reasions are associated with the proposal under examination in this behalf.

Selection of Feature Films Shown over Doordarshan

5274. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GA-DAKH PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been criticism from various quarters regarding the standard of feature films being shown by Doordarshan;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the criteria, if any; for selecting feature films to be telecast by Doordarshan; and

(d) whether Government have reviewed the existing criteria so that better feature films are selected by Doordarshan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GAD-GIL): (a) and (b). Viewers' reaction to the feature films telecast by Doordarshan has been mixed as it depends upon the personal tastes of individual viewers. Doordarshan's endeavour has been to telecast feature films fit for family viewing.

(c) and (d). Offers received from producers/parties holding T.V. rights for feature films are scrutinised and selections made by the Committees constituted at various Doordarshan Kendras and also at the Directorate General, Doordarshan, keeping in view the following aspects of the films, in that order :

- (a) International/National/State Awards won
- (b) Thematic Value
- (c) Cinematic Value
- (d) Entertainment Value
- (c) Year of Production
- (f) Number of times the film was shown on T.V. and at what stations