

Title: Demand to ban objectionable advertisements relating to obnoxious talks on phone/insence chat, etc.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri M.V.V.S. Murthi.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (VISAKHAPATNAM): Sir, I am waiting for this opportunity for the last one week. ...*(Interruptions)* After a very long time, I have got this opportunity. Please allow me to speak.

Sir, of late all the leading newspapers are carrying advertisements ...*(Interruptions)*

डॉ. रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह (वैशाली) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, प्रो. रासा सिंह रावत जी ने जो बात कही है, वह सही है। *(व्यवधान)* वहां निर्दोष लोगों को मारा जा रहा है। *(व्यवधान)* इस पर सरकार को बयान देना चाहिए। *(व्यवधान)* देश के कोने-कोने से लोग आसाम में जाते हैं। *(व्यवधान)* रावत जी ने जो बात कही है, मैं उसका समर्थन करता हूँ कि सरकार इस पर एक बयान दे। *(व्यवधान)*

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri M.V.V.S. Murthi says.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : This is a very important matter. I request the House to kindly hear me.

All the leading newspapers are carrying advertisements, which are tantalising and attracting the youth with messages like `have a cosy talk, have a musical talk, have a tantalising talk, have a cool talk, or something like that'''''''. These are given with very attractive names. All the leading newspapers are carrying advertisements giving these numbers. These numbers are given by private agencies. This is being promoted by MTNL. These are all STD numbers. When elders are not in their houses, all our boys and girls, students and children are telephoning to these numbers. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (ULUBERIA): This is phone prostitution. ...*(Interruptions)*

*Not Recorded.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Yes, I agree with you. All these are very sexual talks and all kinds of talks. These are all obnoxious talks, which are going on through these numbers. Telephones are used for a number of hours on such matters. The culprit is MTNL. The Government should not stoop to such a level for getting a small amount of hire charges. Ninety per cent of the hire charges are being given to the private parties and only 10 or 15 per cent is retained by MTNL. This is not our culture or heritage. This is against Indian culture.

The hon. Minister should give a reply to this. These types of calls should be stopped forthwith by MTNL. I want the hon. Minister to give a reply. I hope, the whole House will agree with me on this subject. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, you are not allowing the Minister to reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, you can support it.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Our Lok Sabha covers are containing this.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Radhakrishnan, I have called the Minister. You can support Shri Murthi please.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I am supporting him.

MR. SPEAKER: Then, it is all right. No problem.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think a very important issue has been raised by Shri Murthi. Anybody sitting in this House, whether from the Government side or of the Opposition side, will not disagree with him that the telephone system should not be misused by anybody for immoral things. I think these advertisements have started coming in the last month or so.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : It has come in all the newspapers.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: I am not disputing anything. I agree with you. I agree with every word you said and I agree with what you have not said also.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Thank you very much.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: It is because I recall that a year back when such kind of advertisements started coming in newspapers, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj was the Minister of Communications. She made some kind of an arrangement by which this could not be used by the people. As I said, I am not defending it. I am also offended by such kind of advertisements and misuse of telephone by people. I do not want to discuss it even because that will also give a publicity to such kind of things. Few of them are not in this country. They are outside the country. They are in Bangkok. They are in many other countries where you make an ISD call.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Some Ministers are using it.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: You forgot to say ex-Ministers.

That is why, I can say that it is a very important issue and I will personally take up this issue with the Minister of Communications. Let us see how we can stop technologically this kind of misuse of telephone lines by anybody. At the same time, if something is not technologically feasible, at that point of time, I think, you have educated everybodyâ€¦

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Not technologically. It is only a process of liberalisation. Such liberalisation should not be there.â€¦ (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, what is this? Hon. Members, please take your seats.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: As I said, let us try technological step so that VSNL and MTNL should not allow such kind of conversations to take place. The Government can look into all advertisements and disconnect all such kind of telephones immediately....(Interruptions) Please allow me to say.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARH): Please ban all these advertisements.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, you are a lawyer. So, I have to do everything under the law. As I said, we have to do under the law but definitely the Government will also examine every possibility to ban such kind of advertisements in the very near future.â€¦ (Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): If a law is required, why do you not bring an appropriate legislation?

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: I think all of us agree that this should be stopped. If Members have some specific suggestions on this, they can give it to me. We will implement each and every suggestion.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : I am giving a specific suggestion. Why do you not consult the Law Ministry and bring an appropriate legislation?â€¦ (Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: I will talk to the Law Minister.â€¦ (Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : The MTNL phone numbers are being distributed through our parliamentary covers....(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (BALLIA, U.P.): The hon. Member is making a very serious allegation. He should be heard. He has said that these advertisements are being circulated through our parliamentary papers. Is it a fact?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : How is it MTNL covers are being distributed?

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : As per his allegation, it comes in the parliamentary papers. It is a serious thing.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Most respectfully I will submit that Government does not circulate the parliamentary papers.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : I am not asking the Government. I am asking the Speaker.

If it has been circulated, with whose permission was it done, how was it done and action should be taken because the hon. Member mentioned it. Mr. Speaker, Sir, in every matter there should be some limit. If the Government is helpless, as he said, at least the Parliament should be helpful in seeing that these papers are not circulated through parliamentary papers.

The other thing is, an hon. Member has mentioned that one Member is coming by a tractor and the matter is being raised in this House. Tomorrow somebody may come on a tank and should that be allowed? Are we not making a fun of this institution, Mr. Speaker, Sir, and the Government is quiet? I am sorry to say, Mr. Speaker, Sir, you should use your authority in certain matters to stop some people and punish some Members. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Mr. Speaker, Sir,â€¦

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except what Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev says.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: I am calling one by one

. ...(*Interruptions*)

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल : उनको गेट पर नहीं रोका गयाâ€¦(*ब्यवधान*) उनको पार्लियामेंट के स्टाफ ने नहीं रोका, पुलिस ने रोका हैâ€¦(*ब्यवधान*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is over please.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever names are with me, I am calling those names only. Please understand.

*Not Recorded.