

[Translation]

Telephone Instruments Out of Order

659. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :
SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the telephone subscribers in Delhi and various other parts of the country are facing lot of problems on account of their telephone instruments being out of order;

(b) If so, whether the telephone department is harassing the subscribers by showing the non-availability of the instrument;

(c) If so, whether the Government propose to issue guidelines to the telephone exchanges of Delhi and Sitapur district in Uttar Pradesh for replacing telephone instruments which are out of order;

(d) If so, the time by which it is likely to be done; and

(e) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Sir, about 2 to 10% of total complaints are due to telephone instrument faults and such faults are rectified as & when reported.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The guidelines in MTNL Delhi and Sitapur district in UP have already been issued to repair the minor telephone faults at the subscribers premises. In case of major faults the telephones are replaced by a good working telephone instrument.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Use of Polythene Bags

660. SHRI C.D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the excessive use of polythene bags is causing danger to the environment;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the low quality polythene bags manufactured by many companies leave their colours if some food item is kept in them;

(d) If so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Government is aware of the reports that sometimes these thrown away polythenes are eaten by the animals which results in death of these animals; and

(f) If so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABULAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Polythene bags are not harmful to the environment per se, though, improper disposal may cause environmental problems.

(c) and (d) Instances have come to notice that low quality polythene bags may leave their colour on unpacked food items. The National Plastic Waste Management Task Force constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests has recommended restriction on the manufacture of dirty colour bags with visible contamination. An Implementation Monitoring Committee has been constituted to oversee the progress and follow-up of the implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force.

(e) No reports regarding death of animals due to the consumption of polythenes, have been brought to the notice of the Government.

(f) Does not arise.

Obscenity on Doordarshan

661. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the image of Doordarshan has mangled as the tendency to over exposing females have been increasing;

(b) If so, whether the Government are aware that through telecast of advertisements and serials, women are being presented as a commodity which is affecting the Indian culture;

(c) If so, whether the Government are aware that the films and Doordarshan Programmes have been instrumental in the nab of crimes against the women specially minor girls; and

(d) If so, the steps being taken by the Government to check the vulgar exposure and discourage the increasing tendencies of telecast of beauty contests?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise. However, Doordarshan previews all its programmes including films before telecast to ensure that they are suitable for family viewing and conform to the provisions of Broadcast and Advertisement Codes. Besides, Doordarshan considers only those films which are certified by Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) for Universal Exhibition. CBFC takes care that *modus operandi* of criminals and other visuals and words likely to incite the commission of any offence against women especially minor girls are not