

that in other respects, the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of 15 members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee"

The motion was adopted.

15.30 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377.—Contd.

(ix) UNSATISFACTORY WORKING OF TELEPHONE SYSTEM IN CALCUTTA.

SHRI M. A. HANNAN ALHAJ (Basirhat): The telephones in the city of Calcutta and suburban towns are generally out of order. There is utter chaos and mismanagement in the entire telephone system in the metropolitan city of Calcutta. Sometimes the telephone is out of order, or there is no response from the other end, and often it happens that the telephone does not work at all. It has caused severe inconvenience to the citizens of Calcutta. It has caused annoyance and dismay. The business is suffering, industrial and commercial firms are facing great difficulties. The patients are encountering severe hardship. Every aspect of life is affected. In terms of money, the loss amounts to lakhs of rupees every day. The agony and difficulty of the common man knows no description. I, therefore, request the Central Government to intervene in the matter, restore normalcy in the telephone department, and bring efficiency in it as it was once a prestigious department. The Calcutta Telephones had a glorious past and it had earned a legendary fame in efficiency in the past, but now it has become inefficient. I hope that early steps will be taken in this regard.

In this respect, I would like to mention....

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, he cannot go beyond the written statement. I am sorry.

15.32 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]
(x) INCLUSION OF NEPALI IN THE EIGHTH SCHEDULE OF THE CONSTITUTION.

SHRI K. B. CHETTRI (Darjeeling): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, as per the Census Report of 1971, there are nearly 15 lakhs of Nepali-speaking people all over the country. But the actual figure is much higher than this. Nepali is one of the official languages of the State of Sikkim and the Hill Areas of Darjeeling in West Bengal. The State Governments of Sikkim, West Bengal and Tripura have already adopted resolutions to the effect that Nepali be included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. Despite our effort to impress upon the Governments, they have failed to accede to our demand, as a result of which the Indian Nepalese are very much agitated. On top of that, the existing system of recruitment to All-India and Central Services, where the candidates have to appear in one compulsory paper and in that language which is included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution has eroded the faith in the Government and a sense of insecurity has crept in. The candidates, whose mother tongue is included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, will have the extra privilege to write in their own language, whereas the others are forced to write in any language included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, other than their mother-tongue. This is really very unfair in a democratic country like ours, where article 15(1) of the Constitution clearly states "The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them." The decision of the Government with regard to the existing system of recruitment to all-India and Central Services is a