

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please don't record anything without my permission.

I shall now put all the cut motions moved to the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Rural Development to vote together unless any hon. Member desires that any of his cut motions be put separately.

All the cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put the Demand for Grant relating to the Ministry of Rural Development to the vote. The question is;

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amount on Revenue Account of Rural Development is passed.

Demand for Grant, 1982-83 in respect of the Ministry of Rural Development voted by Lok Sabha.

count and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1983, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 75 relating to the 'Ministry of Rural Development'."

The Motion was adopted

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Demand for Grant relating to the Ministry of Rural Development is passed.

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 16th March, 1982	Amount for Demand for Grant to be submitted to the vote of the House
1	2	3	4
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
			Revenue Rs.
			Capital Rs.
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT			
75.	Ministry of Rural Development	75,03,82,000	8,20,000
			375,19,11,000
			41,00,000

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1982-83 Ministry of Communications

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up the discussion and voting on Demands Nos. 14 to 18 relating to the Ministry of Communications for which six hours have been allotted.

Hon. Members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demands for Grants have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15

minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move.

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions to be moved be put on the Notice Board shortly. In case any Members finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table without delay.

Now we start the discussion.
Motion moved:

††Not recorded.

†Moved with the recommendation of the President.

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges that will

come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1983, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands No. 14 to 18 relating to the 'Ministry of Communications'."

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 16th March, 1982		Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue	Capital	Revenue	Capital
1	2	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS					
14.	Ministry of Communications	54,10,000	6,28,83,000	2,70,47,000	31,44,17,000
15.	Overseas Communications Service	4,66,54,000	1,50,00,000	23,32,69,000	7,50,00,000
16.	Posts and Telegraphs—Working Expenses	1,81,73,93,000	..	908,69,64,000	..
17.	Posts and Telegraphs—Dividend to General Revenues, Appropriation to Reserve Funds and Repayment of Loans from General Revenues	50,48,12,000	..	252,40,62,000	..
18.	Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphs	..	91,22,25,000	..	456,11,25,000

MR. DEUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Era Mohan.

*SHRI ERA MOHAN (Coimbatore): Hon. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on behalf of my party, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, I rise to say a few words on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Communications for 1982-83.

Sir, you know that a few days before the Central Budget, the P & T

Department increased the telephone charges and some other postal rates. In the Central Budget also the prices of inland letter, cover, and registration charges etc. were enhanced. The revised M.O. commission came into effect from 1-3-1982. The new price of inland letter and cover was given effect to from 1-4-1982. That too is was done in the Post-office located inside the Parliament House. After two days the old rates were restored. In the absence of clear instructions that the re-

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

[Shri Era Mohan]

vised rates for inland letter cover etc. would be effective only after the Finance Bill became a law, the Post-Office inside the Parliament House and naturally the Post-Offices throughout the country collected the revised rates for inland letter, cover etc. on 1-4-1982. It is impossible now to refund the extra charges collected on these days. This has happened because of the failure and negligence on the part of officials concerned to inform the Post-Offices that the revised rates would be effective only after enacting the Finance Bill. I request the hon. Minister of Communications to look into this and ensure that such a mistake on the part of officials does not recur and that the officials should be advised to be more careful in future.

The price of postal cover has been raised to 50 paise. Though this increase cannot be justified on all fours, yet the increase in the price of inland letter from 25 paise to 35 is unreasonable because of the fact that only lower middle class people use the inland letters. They are no better than those who use post-cards. Hence I demand that the price of inland letter should be only 25 paise and not raised to 35 paise.

1701 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE
in the Chair.]

Both inside the Parliament and outside in the Press many times complaints of inordinate delay are voiced in the matter of delivery of postal articles, telegrams etc. There might be delays here and there. But, on the whole I have no hesitation in declaring that our employees in the P & T Department are the best in the whole world. This is borne out by my personal experience. My own elder brother is working for many years in Montreal, Canada. The letters which we write to him reach Ottawa, Canada in four, five days. From Ottawa it takes more

than a month for the letter to reach my brother in Montreal. Canada is an advanced country; it is a very big country too, but the population of Canada is not even equal to that of one State in our country. As compared to this, catering to the postal needs of 68 crores of people, our P&T employees are really doing a wonderful job. When we look at the circumstances in which they are working, all of them deserve commendation from this House for their efficiency. We should condone their lapses here and there bearing in mind the constraints under which they are working.

While they are so devoted to their work, the employees in Postal Department and in the Telephone Exchanges have some genuine petty grievances, the redressal of which does not involve crores of rupees for the Government. They are there because of the communication gap between the higher echelons and those down below. If these petty grievances are redressed, they will be imbued with further enthusiasm in their day to day arduous work. I appeal to the hon. Minister to bestow his personal attention in this matter which will enable the employees to give their best.

Sir, we have 5.96 lakh villages in our country and we have only 1.24 lakh rural post offices. This means that for every 4 villages there is one post office. It is not that these villages are contiguous; they are separated by a few miles. This distance should be reduced and there should be one post office for every two villages. Wherever it is not possible, then mobile postal vans should be introduced for the villages which have no post-offices at all. In towns we have mobile postal vans in addition to any number of post-offices. Because of growing population in towns we do require these mobile postal vans. At the same time, the communication needs of villagers should be met by introducing mobile postal vans wherever they are not having post-office. There are not many to advocate the cause of rural people, who themselves also cannot ventilate

their grievances. But even small problems of urban people are magnified in the newspapers which attract the attention of the Hon. Minister. In this background, I demand that the hon. Minister of Communications should introduce mobile postal vans in the villages having no post offices and if it is not possible to have one post office for every two villages.

I understand that in the rural post-offices the Savings Bank Accounts are not being maintained properly. It is not that in all the rural post offices such a state of affairs exist. The poor villagers, the artisans and the school teachers put their life's savings in the SB Accounts. It happens that either the accounts are not maintained properly or those officers in the rural post offices just disappear with that money. To get back their savings of Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 10,000 these hopeless people are to wait for years and years, after endlessly corresponding with P&T Department. In this process some die also without getting their money. I request that such a state of helplessness should not be allowed to continue for any length of time. The Government should take immediate steps in this regard.

Sir, for a big country like ours, the number of 4.56 crore SB depositors is so insignificant that it calls for an immediate appraisal of the SB scheme. More incentives should be given for inviting more depositors. This should be looked into by the Government.

We have only 34,096 telegraph offices throughout the country. I need not stress that there should be more telegraph offices particularly in view of the size of our country and the ever-growing population. Then only the never-ending complaints of delay in the despatch of telegrams can be ended once and for all. The feeling that letters reach earlier than the telegrams should be removed by augmenting the number of telegraph offices.

Our employees in the telephone exchanges are to work in the midst of primitive conditions, with old outdated machinery and the machinery in continuous repair. The machinery is not being replaced. The telephone exchanges are not being modernised. The employees are doing their best against such odds. In these circumstances, I really pity them when the Telephone Exchange are much-maligned organisations in our country. Here I would like to charge the Ministry with the callousness in spending only 50 per cent of the approved amounts for telecommunication schemes. In 1980 for telecommunication schemes the approved amount was Rs. 403.31 crores and in this year the actuals were just Rs. 268.28 crores. The required amount has been approved and there are schemes to be implemented for better performance. Yet only 50 per cent of approved amount is spent. How can there be progress in the Telecommunication sector? There cannot be any better example than this to show that there is criminal negligence on the part of officials in this regard. I would like to know what action the Government would take against such officials who could not get the approved schemes implemented within that year. This negligence has results in having still, even after 35 years of our Independence 1328 manual exchanges in the country. When are we going to convert them all into automatic exchanges? we cannot make progress with such a large number of manual exchanges in the country. When so much is to be done, how can we appreciate that only 50 per cent of the approved expenditure has spent in 1980? This needs to be looked into by the Hon. Minister.

Throughout the country we have only 27,85,096 telephone connections. We have not even reached the target of one crore telephone connections for a population of 68 crores of people. After paying Rs. 1000 as deposits lakhs and lakhs of people are in the

[Shri Era Mohan]

waiting list for years and years. After depositing Rs 8000/- under the OWN YOUR TELEPHONE scheme, the applicants are waiting for 2 to 4 years. The big businessmen whose whole job is done on the telephone are not able to get telephones for years together. Under the OYT scheme, if someone pays Rs. 8000 within 24 hours on priority he should get the telephone; instead he is waiting for 4 years. The excuse given is that in Bangalore the telephone instruments are being made to the optimum capacity, but the cables are not there. At least as a temporary measure, we should not hesitate to import telephone equipment from abroad to meet the pressing needs of the country. Japan has made remarkable progress in this. They are making very fine telephone instruments in Japan. We can get either from Japan or from other countries at least for the time being so that we meet the minimum basic needs.

In many places we have micro-wave towers under the jurisdiction of P & T Department. The P & T Engineers have told me that with the help of these micro-wave towers it will be possible to have telecast of television programme even from a long distance. For example, we have a micro-wave tower in Coimbatore. If a small cell is established, then Coimbatore can have the telecast of television programmes from Madras. Several lakhs of people would be able to enjoy the television programmes with such an arrangement. I request the hon. Minister to look into this and do the needful.

Before I conclude, I would refer to two or three important points. We are celebrating the Mahakavi Subramania Bharati Centenary this year. I request that the P & T Department should issue a commemoration stamp honouring this great poet-patriot of Tamil Nadu. Similarly, Acharya

Kripalani, the greatest living example of Gandhian ideals, has passed away recently. He was filling the void between the Father of the Nation and the present generation. His memory should be honoured by a special stamp to be issued this year itself. In Anna Nagar, Madras, the capital of Tamil Nadu, the Department has purchased a plot for a telephone exchange. The hon. Minister of Communications, Shri C. M. Stephen has assured my hon. friend Dr. Kalanidhi that steps would be taken for the construction of Telephone Exchange here. Yet, no preliminary steps have been taken in this matter. I request the hon Minister of Communications to do the needful in this matter.

SHRI CHATURBHUI (Jhalawar): I beg to move:

"That the Demand Under the 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

(Need to streamline the postal, telegram and telephone services in the country.) (6)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced' by Rs. 100."

(Need to ensure daily delivery of the mail and telegrams in every village in the country.) (7)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to open at least one telephone exchange within a radius of 7-Kms. of every village Panchayat centre to the country.] (8)

"That the demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide automatic telephone exchange in every district of the country and to connect all the big cities by direct dialling system.] (9)

"That the demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to charge not more than Rs. 200 per year as rental for a telephone connection and Rs. 500 as cost.] (10)

"That the demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct building for housing post and telegraph offices and telephone exchanges in every sub-division.] (11)

"That the demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to connect all district head quarters in the country with S.T.D. system.] (12)

"That the demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide direct telephone link between district head-quarters and State capitals.] (13)

"That the demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to link all town of Jhalawar district with direct telephone line.] (14)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to connect Manohar Thana, Akreera, Pidawan, Dug, Sunel 1, Agdhar, Bhawani Mandi and Patan Khampur with district headquarters by S.T.D.] (15)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to connect all blocks with district headquarter by direct telephone line.] (16)

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT (Rajgarh): I beg to move:

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced to Rs. 1."

[Failure to transfer the telephones to the heirs of deceased subscribers who were office bearers of certain organisations and the telephones were sanctioned to them some 30 to 40 years back.] (32)

"That the demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to streamline the working of telephone exchanges to bring more efficiency and remove hardships faced by subscribers.] (33)

"That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Communications' be have reduced by Rs. 100."

(Need to check malpractice by linesmen who misuse telephones for S.T.D. calls and help businessmen at the cost of innocent subscribers.) (34)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to appoint M.B.A. qualified administrators in zones instead of technical engineers.] (35)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve the system of sending bills so as to avoid over-charging.] (36)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to give telephone connections to the sons or dependents of freedom fighters on priority basis.] (37)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Dr. Vasant Kumar Pandit.)

[Need to sanction telephone in the category O.Y.T. which have been held up due to Asian Games in Delhi inspite of the fact that persons have deposited the prescribed charges months back) (38)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to connect Saranpur and Biaora (Exchanges with Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh). (39)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to set up a telephone factory at Narsingharh to solve the unemployment problem in the backward district of Rajgarh in Madhya Pradesh.] (40)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to ensure daily and timely delivery of mail and telegrams in every village of the country.) (41)

"That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to open at least one telephone exchange of a P.C.O. within a radius of 10 Kms. of every village Panchayat centre in the backward districts of Rajgarh, Guna and Vidisha in Madhya Pradesh.] (42)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide automatic telephone exchanges in every district and town of the country and to connect all the big cities by direct dialling system.] (43)

"That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

(Need to construct buildings for housing post and telegraph offices and telephone exchanges in every sub divisional town in Madhya Pradesh.] (44)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to connect all district headquarters in the country with S.T.D. system.] (45)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide direct telephone link between sub-divisional headquarters and State Capital in Madhya Pradesh.] (46)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to connect all blocks with district headquarters by direct telephone lines in Madhya Pradesh.] (47)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to reduce the postal charges on parcels containing books consigned to rural areas.] (48)

"That the Demand under the head 'Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to reduce the postal charges for inland letters.] (49)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphs' be reduced by Rs. 100"

(Need to provide more staff for improving efficiency in P. & T. Department.) (50)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Outlay on Posts and telegraphs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for opening P.C.Os. at Todi and Pipalhelya in Diaora Tehsil Rajgarh district of Madhya Pradesh.] (51)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to open a new P.C.O. at mau Pnadana Sarangpur block of Rajgarh (Biaora) district in Madhya Pradesh.] (52)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for building houses on its own land by the P and T Department in Madhya Pradesh.] (53)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to open a new P.C.O. at Udankhedi in Sarangpur block under Rajgarh (Biaora) district of Madhya Pradesh.] (54)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Optlay on Posts and Telegraphs, be reduced by Rs 100."

[Inordinate delay in giving new telephone connections to applicants who have paid O.Y.T. charges in foreign exchange.] (55)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphs, be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to review the policy of issuing special or commemorative stamps.] (56)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to streamline the arrangements for faster collection of letters and postal articles in villages, particularly in backward areas of Madhya Pradesh.] (57)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphis' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to replace old and outdated instruments and boards of telephone exchanges particularly in Madhya Pradesh.] (58)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to develop electronic mechanism for every telephone to register effective calls made on it.] (59)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check the growing number of wrong calls, wrong numbers and sudden snapping of calls.] (60)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve the system for 'Ordinary' Trunk calls and 'Urgent' Trunk Calls.] (61)

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur) : I beg to move :

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to increase the efficiency to reduce wrong calls.] (62)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to increase efficiency of S.T.D. system.] (63)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to increase efficiency of established in villages.] (64)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to evolve a system of tallying the subscriber's record with S.T.D. meter reading every month.] (65)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to streamline the postal, telegraph, telephone and microwave services in the country.] (66)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to create more promotional avenues in the telephone, telegraph and microwave services.] (67)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct staff quarters on its own land by the P&T Department at Samastipur district in Bihar.] (68)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to connect all block headquarters with the respective district headquarters by direct telephone lines.] (69)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to connect all district headquarters with State Capitals by direct telephone lines.] (70)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to increase the salary and allowances of Branch Post Masters and peons to bring them at par with others doing similar jobs.] (71)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to revamp functioning of telephone Department.] (72)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check malpractices by linemen who misuse telephones for S.T.D. calls in order to help businessmen at the cost of innocent subscribers.] (73)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to equip the telephones with appliances to detect the misuse of S.T.D.) (74).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to evolve a better system of billing to avoid over charging.] (75).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to transfer the telephones to the heirs of deceased subscribers.] (76).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to sanction telephone connections in the O.Y.T. category in Delhi which have been held up due to Asian Games.] (77).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to bring the E.D.D.A.-cum-E.D.M.C. employees at par with the other postal employees doing similar jobs] (78).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check malpractices in appointment of Branch Post Masters and Peons.] (79).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. Rs. 100."

[Need to link patori P.C.O. directly with Samstipur head-quarters instead of Hajipur (District vaishali) (80).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to ensure quick delivery of mail and telegrams daily in the villages of the country.] (81).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to set up telephones exchanges at distance of not more than 7 Kms. from village Panchayat headquarters.] (82).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to link every district with S.T.D. and automatic telephone exchange.] (83).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct separate buildings for the post and telegraph offices and for telephone exchange in every sub-divisional headquarter.] (84).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct hoses for the employees of the Post and Telegraph Department on the land belonging to the Department.] (85).

"That the Demand under the Head Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to withdraw the punitive action taken against the workers for participating in all India Strike on 19th January, 1982.] (86).

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: (Nalanda): I beg to move:

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide summer amenities such as fans and room coolers to the staff in the DGP&T Office.] (100).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Shri Vijay Kumar Yadav]

[Need to provide cold weather amenities such as heaters to the staff in the D.G.P.&T. (Office.) (101).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to supply adequate drinking water to the employees of D.G.P.&T. during summer seasons.] (102).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to replace obsolete and unworkable type-writers in D.G. P&T. which adversely affects the efficiency of the employees] (103).

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: I beg to move:

*"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs 100."

[Need to apply the principle that transfers will mean change of station and not of sections at the same station in P&T Department.) (93).

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: I beg to move:

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to replace obsolete furniture in the DGP&T.] (104).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to repair the lifts in the DGP&T.] (105).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to implement the Government orders in regard to the 40 Point Roster for promotion on regular basis in clerical cadre.] (106).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to prepare a list of promotees to the clerical cadre in the regular promotions according to the 40 Point Roster as prescribed by the Government.] (107).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to review the sanctioned Permanent strength of the staff belonging to CSSS/CSCS cadres.] (108).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to confirm temporary employees belonging to CSCS/CSSS/CSS cadres.] (109).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to issue the seniority lists of the employees belonging to CSCS/CSSS/CSS cadres.] (110).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to promote the CSCS staff who are due and eligible for promotion to next higher grade.] (111).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to publish the seniority list of the junior Draftsmen in DGP&T.] (112).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to give selection grade to Junior Draftsmen working in the DGP&T.] (113).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to hold regular meetings with the representatives of staff to solve their genuine grievances.] (114).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to hold Office Council (JCM) meetings in the DGP&T on regular basis.] (115).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide suitable accommodation to Office Council (JCM Staff Side) in the DGP&T.] (116).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to avoid delay in the promotion of the staff of CSCS/CSS/CSSS cadres.] (117).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to void delay in the confidential report of the staff within a reasonable period of DGP&T.] (118).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to promote majdoors working in TRC who are eligible for the post of wiremen/LDC in DGP&T.] (119).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to regularise *ad hoc* class-IV employees of the DGP&T who have put in more than 480 days service on daily wages.] (120).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to promote/regularise, educationally qualified class-IV

employees against 5 per cent quota reserved for them in the grade of LDC in the DGP&T.] (121).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to revert Accountants and Account Officers belonging to Postal and Telecom, Account Services to subordinate offices and fill up resultant vacancies by trained CSCS/CSS staff in the DGP&T.] (122).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to stop induction of Telecom Accounts Clerks in DGP&T where only LDCs of CSCS cadre can be appointed.] (123).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to pay wages to the canteen staff in time in Departmental canteens.] (124).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to make purchases from Super Bazar/Fair Price shops for the departmental canteens in DGP&T.] (125).

SHRI R. L. P. VERMA (Kodarma):
I beg to move:

"That the Demands under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to transfer the telephones to the heirs of deceased subscribers who had telephones in the name of certain organisations.] (128).

"That the Demands under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to set up more telephone exchanges in South Delhi to meet the demand for more connections.] (129).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Shri R. L. P. Verma]

[Need to remove the restriction on new connections at the telephone exchanges at Shakti Nagar and Sahadra in Delhi and sanction of more telephone connection in these areas.] (130).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Undue delay in maturing of ordinary trunk calls in Delhi.] (131).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check malpractices being indulged in by linemen in getting S.T.D. calls for businessmen on the telephone numbers of other subscribers.] (132).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check over-charging in telephone bills to relieve the subscribers from undue hardship.] (133).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to reorganise Posts and Telegraphs Department to bring efficiency its his work.] (146).

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check malpractices of arranging free trunk calls for businessmen by the employees working in telephone exchanges.] (147)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to Denial of pay-scales and other facilities to the employees of branch post offices by treating them as part-time employees.] (148)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to enhance the pay-scales of E.D.As and E.D.M.Cs.] (149)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide telephone exchanges and P.C.Os. in hilly and other backward areas particularly in Chhotanagpur.] (150)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to arrange for Male vans for regular delivery of dak in Raj Dhanwar (Giridih Bihar).] (151)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to extend telecommunication facilities extensively in rural areas.] (152)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to open post offices in villages with Gram Panchayats having population of two thousand five hundred.] (153)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to open branch post offices at Karihari Hirodih Chiknadih in Giridih district and Araiya Katiye and Chopnadih (Markacho

block) in Hazaribagh district.] (154)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to set up telephone exchanges in Jammu and Bagodar block headquarters of Giridih district.] (155)

SHRI T. R. SHAMANNA (Bangalore South) : I beg to move :

"That the demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to give an appointment to a son/daughter of retired P&T employees]. (134)

"That the demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to increase the efficiency of Posts and Telegraphs Department]. (135)

"That the demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to prepare correct telephone bills]. (136)

"That the demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take drastic action in regard to the chronic sickness of telephones]. (137)

"That the demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve the working of STD system]. (138)

"That the demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

"That the demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for making quick allotment of new telephone connections to applicants who are on waiting lists for a long time, particularly in cities like Bombay]. (139)

"That the demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to tone up the working of communications Department (P & T)]. (140)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Inordinate delay in the delivery of postal letters and telegrams]. (141)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take action against postmen who delay the delivery of postal articles and those who throw away the postal articles] (142)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide better premises for Posts and Telegraphs offices]. (143)

[Shri T. R. Shamanna]

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to open post offices in the new extensions of Bangalore city]. (144)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check malpractices slowly creeping into Postal and Telephone Departments]. (145)

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the Demands presented before this House. When I refer to the telecommunication system and its working in this country, it should not be taken as a criticism against its functioning, because there is no party or partisan attitude, so far as its functioning in our country is concerned. The opposition should not exploit the situation, on the basis of some shortcomings of the telecommunication. Taking into consideration the vastness of the country and the great leeway to be made up, it has improved by leaps and bounds in this country. The telephone system is not a status symbol, it symbolises the progress and development of the nation. On this basis, I would like to say a few words regarding the telecommunication system of this country.

I would say that our system is lagging behind, compared to other countries. I would not say that it is more than 100 years, but it is at least two decades behind them. We are having the same system, which we had in the 'sixties' and 'seventies.' This is the third time that I am participating in the discussion on the Demands of this Ministry and making this complaint.

There is no doubt it that we have done excellent work. There is improvement in technology and the expansion which telecommunication has made is tremendous. The question which we have to discuss is whether the expansion and sophistication are sufficient. It is because my friend, Mr. Stephen, is one of the able and very good personalities in this country and he is holding a very responsible position today and the administration is at his command. So, I would like to know why the administration of the tele-communication system is subjected to much criticism not only from outside, but also inside.

Sir, taking into consideration various reports of the tele-communication improvement, let us discuss this Sarin Committee Report, which is a technical report. A voluminous report has been prepared and presented. The substance of this report and other reports reveals that many of the systems have to be changed and expansion has to be made and the engineering skill and the technology and the latest sophistication should be applied. Mr. Sarin suggested various short-term and long-term measures and all these things have to be implemented by the Communications Ministry. It is very ambitious that our country should be developing by leaps and bounds, but the telephones that we use in comparison to the other countries shows that our country is the seventh among the developing countries, but we have got only 4 telephones out of 1000 population so far as using the telephone system is concerned.

Here, I like to quote certain figures for the information of the hon. Minister to show where we stand regarding this telephone system and how we are lagging behind. This is from the information given in Lok Sabha.

The six phones per 1000 has been envisaged in our Sixth Plan. Comparative figures for 1980 show that India lags behind seven developing countries: Algeria has 22 per thousand; Brazil 51 per 1000; Iran 22 per

1000; Mexico 64 per 1000; Ghana 6 per 1000; Sri Lanka about 6 per 1000 and Kenya has 11 per 1000. Bangladesh has less than 2 per 1000 and Pakistan 3 per 1000.

Among the developed countries the highest are America with 791 per 1000; Sweden 771 per 1000 and Canada 654 per 1000. The global figure is 164 telephones per 1000 population.

Among the developing countries, our country is a strong country, it is a big nation, we have got population, we have got resources, we have got manpower and we have got plenty of resources to meet the entire situation and our leader is emerging as one of the world leaders and we have to have a good communication system because further development in respect of economy etc. is very necessary. Therefore, the administration of tele-communication system has to be over-hauled and it has to be reconstructed. Unless this is overhauled and reconstructed, the administration will be on the brink of collapse so far as the telephone system is concerned. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Minister, Mr. Stephen, to take the suggestions and the report submitted by Sarin Committee for utilising our existing capacity of manufacturing telephones and improving the quality of telephones and the equipment system. Whatever material is required for using such equipment throughout the country has to be processed. That has not been done. We have to go for the electronic system. The cross-bar system has been outmoded and it has not been functioning well in this country for various reasons. We have got space technology, satellite and micro-wave technology, what is the type of operation and administration to-day? Administration is producing some quality of cables, materials, may in I.T.I. Bangalore, may be at Faridabad or Rai Bareilly. On the basis of the Technical Report we have to expand. That Report is available in the Ministry. It is not that we have not expanded. Expand-

ed, we have. 400 exchanges have been expanded during this Plan. Money allocated for expansion, technology and modernisation is Rs. 54 crores in this Plan. I do not think this allotment for modernisation, expansion and for equipment, is sufficient to meet the entire situation. Two lakh telephones have to be given to the public.

There is a communication gap to-day. It is about the economic activities. Tele-communication system throughout the country has to be spread and a net work has to be organised. Why we have not been able to get what ought to be in the functioning of the telephone system? The responsibility for this has not been fixed. Telephone system in Bombay, Hyderabad, Bangalore, and other cities has not been up to the mark. Tele-communication has not been functioning very satisfactorily. But no responsibility has been fixed. The reporters have been reporting about the tele-communication system and about the operation system. The people who man it have not been properly manned. I do not know who are the organisers, who are manning. So far as telephone system is concerned, it is bringing a bad name to our Government. Therefore, the bureaucracy has to be revamped. The laws have to be enacted. The defective system has to be set right and snags have to be removed. We see telephone system everywhere is collapsing. Out of ten calls sometimes three, sometimes six calls go to the wrong number. It is not only in Delhi but everywhere.

Shri Stephen has taken many steps. He has done an excellent work so far as expansion and other things are concerned. He has done immensely well. But in the administration the Heads of the Department who are controlling the communication system, may be facing sabotages. It may be in the Department of Telephones or in the Corporations because we are running Corporations also. We are having public sector communication system, manufacturing units in various parts of our country. What is the

[Shri K. Lakkappa]

reason that things of proper quality are not coming? Machinery of requisite quality has not been installed. I quite agree that we cannot compare our country with the most modern countries. But our country is in no way inferior to any other country. In Asia the Third World is emerging under our leadership and India is emerging as one of the biggest modern countries. Our achievements in Science and technology have been appreciated. We are not inferior to anyone in any way so far as science and technology is concerned and scientific research is concerned. Many countries are copying our science and technology.

Telephone Department is a small Department so far as its administration is concerned. Why have we not been able to project proper image so far as its functioning, its administration is concerned? It is very disheartening to note that the telephone system is not only mounting up but the entire telephone communication system is in a mess because of the bureaucracy which is not functioning properly. Before we go to the sophisticated method of operation or a change or improvement in the telephone system, is made by importing machineries or introducing space technology or microwave system from any other country, say German or Italy, the existing system should be overhauled. We are spending a huge amount on telephone factories and manufacturing units. The amount is spread over on the expansion scheme and an investment of Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 crores has already been made. On the administration side also, we are spending a huge amount of money. Today we are paying taxes. People are very happy to pay taxes provided the system, the telephone system is functioning properly. If it is not functioning, naturally, we are subject to criticism. Therefore, the overall situation is to be taken into consideration before we go in for sophisticated system. The question is whether the existing sys-

tem can be improved and if so in what area, say manpower planning. Right from technical staff to the highest operating centre, the system has rusted for a long time. Those officials who are manning the system are rusted. If I may say so, even in the pending connections today in the country, which may be of the order of one lakh or 2 lakhs, a Member of Parliament is not given a line in Bangalore Telephones. I am demanding it for the last six months. I will show you. But the organisation is not coming forward to give a line—it may be JYT or Deposit or service matters or any other thing. But when a Member of Parliament was asking for an extra telephone line, it was not given. It was not even declared as a privileged telephone.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I hope, yours is functioning but mine is not.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: I am not accusing. But the Minister has to take this into consideration. Invariably wrong calculations are there. Wrong billing is there. Wrong connections will continue. Even when the telephone is locked and kept in the almirah, the bill is sent. There must be a sound system. I think the old outmoded system is to be changed. On what basis, do the officers make a wrong calculation? When there is a wrong telephone connection, it is not my fault, it is not your fault and it is not the subscriber's fault. But still he has to pay for it. The mechanism has collapsed and there have been failures. But there cannot be any so called reduction of charge or whatsoever because of wrong connection. They are arbitrarily charging and billing the subscribers. The wrong connection also goes because of the poor working of the instruments. These instruments are also badly maintained. It may be round about Rs. 20 lakhs. This Ministry has got very ambitious plans. They have prepared certain schemes, they have brought about certain changes. They are trying to bring out a change in the system. I know, the Ministry is working very hard, the Minister

is working very hard. But the system of responsibility and accountability has to be maintained properly. Unless you fix the responsibility on the people, right from the bottom to the top, the system will not be improved. You have to improve technology, whether it is microwave technology or satellite technology, because it is a big country and the communication gap should not be there.

The communication system has to be improved because the entire development of the nation, the overall development of economy, is based on the proper functioning of the communication system. If the communication system collapses, all the developmental activity will also collapse. Therefore, it is a commonsense and it is an accepted philosophy that the communication system has to be improved in a proper manner and it should be done in a scientific manner. We are in a science age and we have got scientific conclusions which are accepted by many countries. We are not short of any manpower, we are not short of any technology, we are not short of any raw material. Why has this not been coordinated? Therefore, we are asking for the Sarin Committee report to be implemented. It does not matter even if we pay more but the communication system has to work properly. It does not matter even if we import more, but the communication system must work properly. Whatever the telephones system is available now, it should function properly.

The P&T Department has also got an expansion scheme and all that. Every rural area has to be covered by it. The P&T activity has to cover every rural area. Even today we are demanding that post offices in the rural areas are still not properly organised and properly maintained. The people are not properly appointed and recruited. These post offices have to be organised properly because we want that every village must have a communication. Every village must have a post office. Today, so many villages do

not have a post office. The teachers have been appointed on a temporary basis. Therefore, the postal system has to be improved in the rural areas.

Taking the overall working into consideration, the Ministry is functioning and the Minister is functioning. But there is something wrong with the Department. The Department has to be given a shock treatment. I appeal to our dynamic Minister, Mr. Stephen, to do something about it. There is no political consideration. So far as the tele-communication system is concerned, so far as the telephone system is concerned, it is very bad today. It is the opinion of the entire House, it is the opinion outside also. Therefore, I want that he must give a shock treatment to them. He has to bring out changes and restructure the entire system. He must overhaul the entire bureaucracy which is not responding to his planning, to his system, to his imagination, and he must cut them to size. It is not only in Delhi but in all big cities, the telephone subscribers are crying. The entire system has to be overhauled completely.

I hope and trust that Mr. Stephen, a dynamic personality, will do something. Why can't he handle the small people? I am sure, he can keep them in proper place. He must bring out new technology, new system and see that it functions properly. I once again request him that he should take a severe action against erring officers who are creating a situation and giving an impression to the country that our Government has not done anything. But our Government has done everything. It is the bureaucratic system which is outmoded and it has to be overhauled. Even if any amendment is necessary, he must bring it out to the communication system to the telephone system and to every system. He should re-structure the entire system. With these words and guidelines, I conclude and I wish him well and good luck.

श्री वृद्धि चन्द्र जैन (वाड़मेर) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, संचार मंत्रालय की जो मांगें प्रस्तुत की गई हैं, उनका समर्थन करते हुए मैं अपने विचार सदन के समक्ष प्रस्तुत करना चाहता हूँ।

टेलीफोन के बारे में अभी जो मेरे मित्र ने विचार रखे, वैसे ही विचार टेलीफोन के बारे में मैं भी रखता हूँ।

अभी जो पब्लिक अंडरटेकिंग्स कमेटी की जो रिपोर्ट प्रकाशित हुई है, उसके बारे में मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। उस रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि—

'The Committee has claimed that the Telephone system is at least a decade behind other nations in technology.'

Limited resources of R&D, unreliability of Components lack of product engineering expertise are reported to have hindered our development.

The Committee also says 'It is a pity that during the last 30 years Indian Telephone Industries Limited could not perfect even the telephone instrument. The latest design 677 with a Japanese dial, though an improvement of the present design 671 is not reportedly free from major defects associated with the receiver and the transmitter.'

कहने का अर्थ है कि अभी तक भी, इस वैज्ञानिक युग में भी हम टेक्नालाजी में बहुत पीछे हैं और हमारा विभाग जिता तरह से कार्य कर रहा है, ब्यूरोक्रेसी कार्य कर रही है, वह ठीक ढंग से कार्य नहीं कर रही है। मंत्री महोदय बहुत योग्य हैं, परन्तु विभाग पर जो उनकी गिरावट होनी चाहिए वह गिरावट होने से यह स्थिति बनी हुई है। हम सिर्फ ब्यूरोक्रेसी को ही जिम्मेदार ठहराएँ और खुद जिम्मेदारी महसूस न करें तो यह उचित नहीं होगा। अगर ब्यूरोक्रेसी ठीक ढंग से काम नहीं कर रही है तो हमें सख्ती से, मंत्रीमण्डल से सदस्यों को, हमारी सरकार को सख्ती से कदम उठाने चाहिए और जो वीकनेसेस हैं ब्यूरोक्रेसी में, उनको दूर करना चाहिए।

"नो-हाउ" के बारे में हमने दिसंबर 1977 में निर्णय दिलाया था, उसके बाद इसके बारे में दूसरे देशों से कोई विशेष जानकारी हमने नहीं ली। हम सेटलाइट के मामले में, उपग्रह के मामले में कुछ आगे बढ़ रहे हैं और हमारी उपलब्धियाँ हैं, परन्तु अभी इनसेट-1 (ए) के बारे में जिस प्रकार से रिपोर्ट आ रही है कि यह अभी अच्छी तरह से फिक्स नहीं हुआ है और कब फंक्शन करेगा इसके बारे में भी डार्क पिक्चर हमारे सामने प्रस्तुत हो रही है, मैं चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय इन सारी बातों को क्लीयर करें। क्योंकि इनसेट-1 (ए) और बी की जिस प्रकार से योजना है, उससे हमें बड़ी भारी उपलब्धियाँ प्राप्त होंगी। इससे हिन्दुस्तान के ग्रामीण और बैकवर्ड क्षेत्रों में फायदा होगा।

एक प्लान बनाया गया था इंडीग्रेटेड डेवलपमेंट का, उसमें 17 डिस्ट्रिक्ट लिए गए थे आपने जो 17 डिस्ट्रिक्ट छांटे थे उनमें वाड़मेर राजस्थान का भी एक डिस्ट्रिक्ट

छांटा था। मेरे प्रश्न के उत्तर में बताया गया कि इंटेग्रेटेड डिवेलपमेंट प्रोग्राम के तहत वहाँ कोई प्रोग्रेस नहीं हुई है। जब आप जिलों का इस प्रोग्राम के तहत चुनाव कर लेते हैं, एक-एक प्रान्त में एक एक छांट लेते हैं लेकिन वहाँ कोई खर्च नहीं करते हैं, कोई प्रोग्रेस के काम नहीं करते हैं तो किस प्रकार से आप छठे प्लान के लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त कर सकेंगे, यह आप हमें बताएं।

आटोमैटिक एक्सचेंजिज, एसटी डी की फैसिलिटीज की हर डिस्ट्रिक्ट हैडक्वार्टर में व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिये। राजस्थान इस मामले में बहुत पीछे है। जैसलमेर, बाड़मेर जिलों में ये सुविधाये प्राप्त नहीं है। जहां तक टैलीफोन से लिंक करने की बात है कभी भी ट्रंक काल की जाए, यही जबाब मिलता है कि लाइज ठीक नहीं है। ज्यादा दबाव डाला जाता है तो किसी न किसी प्रकार की इन्वेस्ति रिप्लाइ दे दी जाती है और ट्रंक काल को किसी भी तरीके से जोड़ा नहीं जाता है। हमें किसी भी तरीके से टेलीफोन का उचित लाभ नहीं मिलता है।

रांग नम्बरें भी मिल जाते हैं। आप सही नम्बर भी घुमाते हैं तो रांग नम्बर मिल जाता है। टेलीफोन की व्यवस्था ठीक नहीं है। अवश्य ही आपने टाउंज और सिटीज में टेलीफोन फैसिलिटीज के बारे में कुछ प्रोग्रेस की है। परन्तु ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों को बिल्कुल कवर नहीं किया गया है। दस प्रतिशत ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों को टाउंज और सिटीज के मुकाबले में भी कवर नहीं किया गया है। इस मामले में ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों का भी डिवेलपमेंट किया जाना चाहिये। अभी फिगरें दी गई हैं। एक हजार पर चार लोग ही वहाँ लाभ उठा पा रहे हैं। मतलब यह है हम बहुत पीछे हैं। राजस्थान का जहां तक ताल्लुक है वह तो और भी पीछे है। यहां एक हजार पर एक भी नहीं आता है। डैजर्ट

एरियाज में एक हजार पर आधा परसेंट भी नहीं आता है। बैकवर्ड एरियाज की भी यही हालत है। बैकवर्ड एरियाज में 2500 की पापुलेशन के आधार पर पी सी ओ फिक्स किए जाते हैं। पी सी ओ सेंकशन हो जाता है लेकिन दस दस बरस के बाद भी नहीं लगता है। ऐसी सेंकशन का क्या लाभ हो सकता है? बाड़मेर, जैसलमेर जैसे डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स में जो विस्तृत एरियाज में फैले हुए हैं, ज्यादा लाइन की आवश्यकता होती है। उत्तर प्रदेश में, बिहार में अगर इस आधार पर पांच पी सी ओज स्थापित होते हैं तो हमारे यहाँ एक भी नहीं किया जाता है। कारण यह है कि लाइन लम्बी खींचनी पड़ती है। राजस्थान में पचास परसेंट डैजर्ट एरिया है। उसके लिए सामग्री अधिक चाहिये। अधिक व्यवस्था आपको करनी होगी। खम्भों की, पोलज की, लाइज की अधिक व्यवस्था आपको करनी होगी। पहले भी मैंने इस ओर आपका ध्यान आकर्षित किया था। इस प्रकार के जो एरियाज हैं, जो बहुत फैले हुए हैं क्षेत्रफल के हिसाब से जैसे बाड़मेर, जैसलमेर है या मेरी कंस्टिट्यूएन्सी है जो केरल प्रान्त से डबल है या हरियाणा से ड्योढ़ी है उनका आपको खास खयाल रखना होगा। इन क्षेत्रों का विकास इस वास्ते भी जरूरी है कि ये सीमावर्ती क्षेत्र हैं। सीमावर्ती क्षेत्र अगर प्रोग्रेस नहीं करेंते, उनका डिवेलपमेंट नहीं होगा तो कैसे देश का डिवेलपमेंट हो सकता है। सभी अगर प्रोग्रेस करना चाहते हैं, डिवेलपमेंट करना चाहते हैं तो हम ही क्यों पीछे रहें, हमें ही क्यों पीछे रखा है? उनके मारेल की को बूस्ट करने की तो और भी ज्यादा आवश्यकता है। आपने जैसलमेर डिस्ट्रिक्ट को उपग्रह केन्द्र स्थापित किये जाने के लिए सिलैक्ट किया है तो उसको आगे बढ़ाने का भी तो आप प्रयास करें।

अब मैं पोस्टल फैसिलिटीज के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूं।

[श्री वृद्धि चन्द्र जैन]

कि पोस्ट आफिसेज के बारे में पहले हर साल 1980 के पहले 5,000 नए पोस्ट आफिस खोले जाते थे। अब 1,600 पोस्ट आफिस खोले जाते हैं यह रिपोर्ट के पेज 4 पर कहा गया है :

"The pace of opening new post offices at heavy loss was slowed down during the year. As against the usual annual target of opening 5000 new post offices in the rural areas, the target now is 1600 post offices."

आप हमारे यहाँ कितनी भी कोशिश करें बैकवर्ड एरियाज में कोई लाभ नहीं हो सकता वहाँ पोस्ट आफिस लास में ही रहेंगे। लेकिन एक वॉलफ्रेयर स्टेट में हमें आपको यह सुविधा देनी होगी, यह हमारा अधिकार है। जैसलमेर में प्रति वर्ग किलोमीटर में 7 व्यक्ति रहते हैं और बाड़मेर में 70 व्यक्ति प्रति वर्ग किलोमीटर जहाँ इतना विस्तृत क्षेत्रफल है वहाँ 500 की जनसंख्या के आधार पर आपको पोस्ट आफिस देना चाहिये, वरना बहुत से गाँव कवर नहीं होंगे। इसलिये मेरी मांग है कि ऐसी जगहों पर आपको ब्रांच पोस्ट आफिस खोलने चाहिये। कुछ हमारे गाँव इस प्रकार के हैं जो 25 वर्ग मील से ले कर 100 वर्ग मील के अन्दर हैं। सुन्दरा गाँव 500 वर्ग मील एरिया में है। अगर वहाँ जनसंख्या 2000 है तो दूसरा पोस्ट आफिस आप नहीं खोलते हैं अपने मापदंड के अनुसार। वह कहते हैं कि रेवेन्यू विलेज एक ही है। लेकिन हमारा कहना है कि एरिया तो बड़ा है, 50, 60 स्क्वायर माइल का है, बहुत दूरी पड़ती है, इसलिये एक रेवेन्यू विलेज के अन्दर भी जैसे टाउन्स में आप 2, 3 पोस्ट आफिस खोल देते हैं, उसी तरह ऐसे गाँव में भी 2, 3 पोस्ट आफिस खोले जाने चाहियें।

जैसलमेर जिला पर्यटन की दृष्टि से और डिफेंस की दृष्टि से बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण है। लेकिन वहाँ डिवीजनल सुपरिन्टेंडेंट का आफिस नहीं है। वहाँ डिवीजनल सुपरिन्टेंडेंट का आफिस होना चाहिये। और बाड़मेर में सुपरिन्टेंडेंट पोस्ट आफिस के लिए बिल्डिंग नहीं है। जो है भी वह वह 50 साल पुरानी है, पहले स्टेट के समय की इमारत है, और रेलवे स्टेशन के पास में है, जो एनक्रोचमेंट माना जाता है। राजस्थान सरकार फ्री ज़मीन देने को तैयार है, आप बिल्डिंग बनाइए। लेकिन आपका विभाग इस पर कुछ विचार नहीं कर रहा है। यह जरूरी है कि प्रोपर प्लेस पर डिवीजनल पोस्ट आफिस की बिल्डिंग ही इस बारे में व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए। इन क्षेत्रों में मोबाइल पोस्ट आफिस खोलने को आवश्यकता है। यह काम कैमिस्ट के जरिए हो सकता है, या जीप के जरिए भी हो सकता है। इसलिए आप मोबाइल पोस्ट आफिस इंट्रोड्यूस करें। सब से जरूरी बात यह है कि डिस्ट्रिक्ट लेबिल पर कमेटी का फोरमेशन होना चाहिए ताकि टेलीग्राफ और टेलीफोन की जितनी भी प्रोबलम्स हैं उनका हल किया जा सके। चेयरमैन इस कमेटी का कलेक्टर हो। उस कमेटी में एम० एल० ए० और एम० पी० हों और सुपरिन्टेंडेंट पोस्ट आफिस भी आये ताकि वहाँ के वहाँ छोटी छोटी समस्याओं को हल किया जा सके। इसलिए मेरी मांग है कि डिस्ट्रिक्ट लेबिल पर कमेटी की स्थापना की जाये।

इन शब्दों के साथ जो समस्याएँ मैंने रखी हैं उनको हल करने की मंत्री जी कोशिश करेंगे और अपने विभाग को पूरी ताकत के साथ कोशिश कर के सक्सेसफुल बनायेंगे।

प्रो० सत्यदेव सिंह (छपरा) : माननीय सभापति जी, मैं संचार विभाग के अनुदानों

की मांगों का समर्थन करता हूँ। मेरे मित्र श्री लक्ष्मण ने सरकार के पदाधिकारियों पर गंभीर आरोप लगाये हैं और उनकी कटु आलोचना की है। यह बात सही है कि जैसी सुन्दर व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए, वैसी नहीं है, लेकिन इसके लिए केवल हम अधिकारी वर्ग को ही दोषी माने, यह सर्वथा उचित नहीं है।

चाहे संचार विभाग हो या अन्य कोई भी विभाग हो, कर्तव्य-निष्ठा हमारी समाप्त हो चुकी है। इसका कारण यह है कि जो राष्ट्रीय भावना हमारे मन में होनी चाहिए, जो देश सेवा का अनुराग होना चाहिए, वह समाप्त हो गया है। जहां तक राष्ट्रीय चरित्र का प्रश्न है, केवल संचार विभाग के पदाधिकारियों की ही कार्यक्षमता में गिरावट नहीं आई है, बल्कि हम चतुर्दिक देखते हैं, चाहे केन्द्रीय सरकार का कोई भी विभाग ले लें या किसी भी प्रदेश सरकार के विभाग का हम ले, सब में बहुत स्खलन आया है और इसका एकमात्र कारण यह है कि राष्ट्रीय चरित्र जितना उन्नत होना चाहिए, उस रूप में हम उसे नहीं पाते।

ऐसा कहा गया है कि टेलीफोन काम नहीं करता है और देहातों में, ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में टेलीफोन की और अधिक से अधिक व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। आज से 8, 10 बरस पहले जब स्वर्गीय डा० राम सुभग सिंह जी संचार मंत्री थे, उनसे मैंने कांग्रेस कार्यकर्ता के नाते आग्रह किया और उन्होंने कबूल करके, हमारे प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार करके हमारे बिहार प्रदेश के सारण जिले के गांव नैनी में पी० सी० ओ० की व्यवस्था कराई। वह काफी बड़ा गांव है, 8, 10 हजार की आबादी है, लेकिन पी० सी० ओ० की स्थापना के बाद मैं देखता हूँ, वहां पर कोई काल बुक करने वाला नहीं है। सरकार का खर्च पी० सी० ओ० पर

होता है, लेकिन उसका उपयोग नहीं हो पाता, क्योंकि लोगों में नागरिक चेतना नहीं है। गरीबी है, पैसे का अभाव है, इसका मतलब यह नहीं कि पी० सी० ओ० की स्थापना नहीं होनी चाहिए, लेकिन पी० सी० ओ० की स्थापना करते समय इस बात को देखना चाहिए कि वास्तव में लाभकारी योजना है या नहीं। पी० सी० ओ० की स्थापना के द्वारा 5, 7 वर्षों में उससे कितना लाभ उठाते हैं और कितनी आमदनी हुई? अगर वह लाभकारी नहीं है तो उसे बन्द करना चाहिये और ऐसे स्थान पर उसकी स्थापना होनी चाहिये जहां लोग इससे काम ले सकें।

एक बात और है, मैं इस कार्य-विभाग के काम को बहुत नजदीक से जानता हूँ। अगर इसकी कार्यविधि और गति-विधियों को देखते हैं तो मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि टेलीफोन के पूरी क्षमता के साथ काम करने में एक बहुत बड़ा अभाव बिजली का है। खासतौर से सारण जिले में बिजली की बहुत कमी रहती है, जैनरेटर चला कर भी कभी-कभी छपरा नगर में टेलीफोन केन्द्र काम करता है लेकिन प्रायः बिजली गायब रहती है। बिजली विभाग के अधीक्षक अभियन्ता या किसी भी बड़े अधिकारी से बात कीजिये तो कहता है कि मेरा टेलीफोन तो 10, 20 दिन से काम ही नहीं कर रहा है। टेलीफोन विभाग के अधिकारी से कहिये तो वे कहते हैं कि बिजली नहीं मिलती है। इसलिए टेलीफोन विभाग की कार्यक्षमता नहीं बढ़ती है। यह प्रश्न बड़ा गंभीर है। जब तक बिजली का काफी उत्पादन नहीं होता और बिजली की स्थिति नहीं सुधरती, मैं अपने अनुभव के आधार पर कहता हूँ कि टेलीफोन का कुशलतापूर्वक काम करना असंभव है। इसलिए हमें इस बात पर भी ध्यान देना चाहिये कि कैसे यह बात बन सके।

[प्रो० सत्यदेव सिंह]

मैं एक और अपने निर्वाचन-क्षेत्र की बात करना चाहता हूँ। दिधवारा हमारे संसदीय क्षेत्र सारण जिले का एक प्रमुख स्थान है। एकमा और दिधवारा में डाकघर के मुख्यालय खोलने की बात आई। डाकघर का मुख्यालय एकमा में खोल दिया गया और दिधवारा की उपेक्षा की गई। मैं समझता हूँ कि दिधवारा इस योग्य है जहाँ की छानवीन की जाये तो आंकड़ों के आधार पर यह बात सामने आयेगी कि यहाँ पर मुख्यालय होना चाहिए डाकघर का। मैं संचार मंत्री से आग्रह करूंगा कि वह दिधवारा के के मामले को देखें।

मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र में छपरा सदर प्रखंड में सिधवलिया एक ऐसा निराला गांव है, जो साल में छः आठ महीने पानी से घिरा रहता है। वहाँ पर मुख्यतया हरिजन और गरीब लोग रहते हैं। वहाँ पर डाकघर नहीं है और आवागमन के लिए कोई सड़क नहीं है। अब मुश्किल से एक सड़क का निर्माण किया जा रहा है। फकुली गांव में स्थित डाकघर तक जाने के लिए पांच छः किलोमीटर की दूरी तय करनी पड़ती है। वह सिधवलिया गांव छपरा से केवल दो तीन किलोमीटर की दूरी पर है, लेकिन पानी भरा रहने के कारण वहाँ आने-जाने का कोई रास्ता नहीं है। यद्यपि वहाँ की आबादी कुछ कम है, लेकिन अगल-बगल के छोटे छोटे गांवों की आबादी को मिला कर वहाँ काफी आबादी हो जाती है। इसी विशेष परिस्थितियों के कारण वहाँ डाकघर का होना आवश्यक है।

आज के युग में यदि पोस्ट-कार्ड और लिफाफा आदि समय पर न मिले और चिट्ठी दो, चार, दस दिन बाद मिले तो इसका अर्थ यह है कि आज़ादी मिलने का साधारण सा लाभ भी उन गांवों के लोगों को नहीं हो सका है। उस गांव की स्थिति को देखते हुए संचार मंत्री और संचार विभाग इस बारे में पुनर्विचार करें। मैं महसूस करता हूँ कि वहाँ पर डाकघर खोलना अत्यावश्यक है।

छपरा सदर प्रखंड में एक दूसरा गांव है उमधा, जिसके बारे में मैंने संचार मंत्री से निवेदन किया है। उसकी आबादी 1915 है, जबकि डाकघर खोलने के लिए कम से कम आबादी 2,000 होनी चाहिए। लेकिन उस गांव का हिस्सा है राजमल पिरारी, जिसकी आबादी डेढ़ दो हजार है। अगर इन दोनों का मिला दें, तो तीन चार हजार से ज्यादा जनसंख्या हो जाती है। वह गांव भी बाढ़ग्रस्त है और वहाँ आने-जाने में भी बड़ी परेशानी होती है। संचार विभाग को इस बारे में आपत्ति है कि यह गांव निर्धारित मानदण्ड के अन्तर्गत नहीं आता है। मैं आग्रह करूंगा कि ऐसी स्थिति में, जब कि लोगों को काफी असुविधा हो, डाकघर की स्थापना की जानी चाहिए, जिससे ग्रामीण क्षेत्र को जनता को यह सुविधा उपलब्ध हो सके।

अन्त में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि संचार विभाग नये नये उपकरण प्राप्त कर रहा है और उसका विकास बहुत वैज्ञानिक ढंग से हो रहा है। सरकार इस विभाग के कार्य-क्षेत्र को बढ़ाने के लिए सचेष्ट है,

जिसके लिए मैं उसका धन्यवाद करता हूँ ।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं संचार मंत्रालय की मांगों का हार्दिक समर्थन करता हूँ ।

17.58 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—
Contd.

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CUSTOM ACT

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAN-NARDHANA POOJARY): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of Notification Nos. 117/82-Custom and 118/82-Customs (Hindi and English versions)

published in Gazette of India dated the 19th April, 1982 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to Coal Tar Pitch from the whole of basic, auxiliary and additional customs duty leviable thereon upto 31st May, 1982, under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3945/82].

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet at 11 A.M. on 20th April, 1982.

17.59 hrs.

The Lok Sabha than adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, April 20, 1982/ Chaitra 30, 1904 (Saka)