

is a system which has been introduced not only in Delhi but in other parts of the country and not only with M. Ps., at random certain numbers are taken in exchanges areas and these are being checked.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, from my experience I must say that whenever I am asked on telephone whether my telephone is working properly, I get frightened because the next moment the telephone goes out of order. This has happened not just once but several times. As a matter of fact, they ask just before the telephone goes out of order simply to keep their records complete... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member should not be put to danger. If such a thing happens daily, there can be a danger of heart attack.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Some people may be asked about it in the evenings.

SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI : Whether it is in the morning or in the evening, simply asking will not be of any use if the telephones do not work properly.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Next question ; Shri R. S. Mane—not present ; Chaudhary Ram Parkash—not present.

I will have second round now.

Shri D B. Patil—not present ; Shri Aslam Sher Khan—not present ; Shri Ram Pujan Patel—not present.

Shri Mullappally Ramachandran,

Participation of N. R. I. and other private Entrepreneurs in Manufacture of Electronic Items by Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd.

+

*472. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI V. SOBHANDREESWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) The details of the proposals for allowing participation of Non-Resident Indians or the private sector entrepreneurs in manufacturing electronic and electrical communication items by the Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd.

(b) the reasons for permitting the private sector participation ; and

(c) the net profit earned by the Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd. during 1985-86 and 1986-87, separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b). There is no specific proposal under consideration for participation of Non-Resident Indians (NRI) or other private sector entrepreneurs in manufacturing electronic and electrical communication items by the Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd.

(c) 1985-86	Rs. 83 lakhs
1986-87	Not yet available

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : There are proposals for allowing participation of non-resident Indians in manufacturing electronic as well as electrical communications and devices in the Hindustan Teleprinters Limited. However, the answer given by the Ministry is evasive and he says that there is no specific proposal like that. Often there is a cry from the hon. Minister that Non-Resident Indians are not coming forward to start industries in private as well as public sector. In this connection may I know from the hon. Minister, what are the reasons that prevent the Government from starting industries by investment of the Non-Resident Indians in the Communication Department ?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : There is confusion in the question and the answer as stated by the hon. Member. He has asked involvement of the NRI in the

HTL. It is not as such. But as regards industrial policy of the Government of India NRI or the Private Sector can involve themselves in electronic field and they are being given licence as per industrial policy of the Government of India. There is no restriction. But there is no collaboration with the HTL. Your question was about collaboration with HTL. NRI are involved in mechanism field. They are being given licence on merit basis. There is no restriction on that.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : The Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd. is one of the few public sector companies which is running at a profit. In this connection may I know from the hon. Minister what prevents the Government from expanding it by granting facilities and also from starting more such industries in the public sector ?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : At the moment we have no scheme of expansion.

PROF. N. G. Ranga : Why ?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : It is because various private sector and State Governments have been given permission. In West Bengal we have a Industrial Development Corporation. In Punjab there is State Industrial Development Corporation. We have Hindustan Tele-Communication. These are also joint sector undertakings of the State Government. They have been given permission and from our side there is no scheme of expansion at this moment.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Distribution of Controlled Cloth to Economically Weaker Sections

*469 **SHRI D. B. PATIL :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the demand for controlled cloth to be distributed to economically weaker sections and villagers through public distribution system had been met fully from April 86 to January 87 ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). On

the basis of the production level of the controlled cloth, yearwise quota for each state/union territory is fixed by the Textile Commissioner. The state-wise quota of controlled cloth for the year 1986-86 and release of controlled cloth made during the period from April, 1986 to January, 1987 is given in the statement below.

Controlled cloth has been released during the said period to all the states/UTs according to their entitlement except in the case of Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Tripura where there has been a shortfall in the release. Govt. of Tripura has indicated that there is no much demand for controlled cloth in the state. With regard to the other three states, NCCF, which is the apex level nodal agency for distribution of controlled cloth, has reported that the supply of the allotted quota of controlled cloth had to be suspended due to the non-payment of dues and accumulation of huge outstandings against the state agencies of due to the NTC, the manufacturers of the controlled cloth.

Distribution of controlled cloth is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UTs and they have been requested to streamline and strength the distribution arrangements to ensure that the controlled cloth reaches the target group. According to the information received from the States/UTs, more than 50% of the controlled cloth is reaching the target group in rural areas.