

**Fake Sanction of Telephones of
Priority Basis**

sanctioned in Delhi during the said period and the number of telephone connections out of them still to be installed?

*474. SHRIMATI KESHAR ABAI SONAJI KSHIRSAGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

[English]

(a) whether the vigilance department which made an inquiry into the out of turn allotment of fake telephone connections sanctioned prior to June, 1991 has submitted its report;

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir. The Vigilance Branch of the Department conducted a preliminary inquiry into the fake sanctions for out of turn telephone connections and the case was subsequently handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation for detailed investigation.

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the state-wise details of such fake sanctions inquired into; and

(b) On preliminary inquiry about 1193 sanctions have been found to be fake as per the State-wise break up given below:

(c) the number of telephone connections

Hyderabad District	..	41
Gujarat Circle	..	21
Karnataka Circle	..	3
Madhya Pradesh	..	1
Rajasthan	..	38
U.P.	..	602
Haryana	..	70
Punjab	..	359
MTNL, Delhi	..	29
MTNL, Bombay	..	29

(c) 9,439 telephone connections were sanctioned on out of turn basis during the period 1.1.1991 to 30.6.1991 out of which 3,240 connections have not been installed.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Mr. Speaker Sir, we are trying to find out who is responsible.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: And what action as been taken against them?

SHRIMATI KESHARBAI SONAJI KSHIRSAGAR: Mr. Speaker Sir, who is responsible for sanctioning telephone connections in a wrong manner and what action the Government is taking against them?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: When the hon. Member is asking I may inform her in clear terms. Mr. Speaker, Sir, firstly fake copies of telephone connections were prepared and

sent to CGM. A CBI inquiry is going on into it. Some cases have been detected and we are making further efforts to fix responsibility (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI KESHARBAI SONAJI KSHIRSAGAR: Mr. Speaker Sir, will the Government consider the cancellation of the fake telephone connections and sanction telephone connections turn by turn.

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask the questions again.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI KESHARBAI SONAJI KSHIRSAGAR: Will the Government consider the cancellation of the fake telephone connection and sanction telephone connection turn by turn as also the number of telephone connections in Maharashtra sanctioned by turns and when will the Government all the applicants?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the cases that were recommended why the hon. members have all been connected. But the cases which were not recommended by the MP.'s have been kept pending. They are also been investigated. So far as Maharashtra is concerned, twenty nine connections were sanctioned.

SHRIMATI KESHARBAI SONAJI KASHIRSAGAR: If twenty nine connections are sanctioned only in Bombay, then how many in Maharashtra? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: It contains the number of sanctioned connections in Bombay only, it does not have the number of Maharashtra. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You may inform her later. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon. Minister has taken a decision to constitute a committee to carry out checks whether calls at 197, 189 and 181 are attended to or not as people often have to make urgent calls to these services. Has the

hon. Minister found out in that committee as to times the number had been dialled and how many times response was not given?

In rural areas written complaints have been made to the officials and you are saying that the complaints should be lodged with telephone exchanges and it should be noted down by the complainant. Telephone exchanges are located at far of places, the person who has to make complaint, goes there. Such complaints have been made in writing. The employee of the small telephone exchange locks it and goes wherever to wants and comes after quiet some time. Sometimes the employee does not come back. I would like to know whether action would be taken against such employees?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the committee is concerned, the Social Audit Panel has been entrusted with this job of the Advisory Committee that are constituted everywhere. They are not published much so that it is found find out through checks as to who is on 198, generally its purpose is defeated (*Interruptions*) The Social Audit Panel has been asked to nominate in its own way. The reality is that I myself dial 197 and 198 at night and when nobody attends to it, I give a call to C.G. H and say to him that nobody is attending to the telephone at 197. (*Interruptions*) I do it myself whenever I get an opportunity. Secondly, he has said that the employees in villages go out after locking the exchanges. If there is any such complaint, I would get it investigated. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: The 197 service of Delhi Exchange has become grossly inefficient. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Your supplementary should come out of it.

SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Sir, my telephone bill for 1991-92 is to the tune of s. 1, 90, 000/- What I want to say is that as far as the inflated figures of telephone charges are concerned, it was brought to my notice

that some operators in the Exccahgne have some tie-up with the big business houses; they oblige them. But these calls are not metered.

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you not meet the Minister in the Chamber?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANBARASU ERA: To prevent this misuse by the operators, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister would find out any ways and means to check this.

Another thing is that if such inflated bills are coming, we, the Members of Parliament are of course allowed to continue for some more time even though we do not pay it on time. But the common is asked to pay this before the last date otherwise his telephone is disconnected (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is man now going too off the mark. It is a question on Vigilance Department Inquiry into the out of turn allotment.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANBARASU ERA: If the inflated bill is disputed by the common man, his telephone should not be disconnected till the dispute is settled. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister will give suitable direction to take action against such misuse of telephones.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I realise the concern of the entire House that there are some irregularities in the bills of telephone subscribers. I have already said in my reply that I am making efforts. As the hon. Member has submitted, we have decided that the consumers should pay the average of the last six months of the bill is for rupees two lakh for the first month and rupees 500 each for the rest of the five months, then they should put it to dispute. I

will come with a long range policy so that the irregularities in the bills could be removed, but it would take a little time.

MR. SPEAKER: I think some Members want to you take to if you can do something by talking to theme, please do. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed a number of supplymentaries asked on it, thought which were not relevant what else could I do? (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Our recommendation is that there should be total ban on the quota (*Interruptions*) it is very unfortunate...

MR. SPEAKER: Ifn you have any difficulty please...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is a question Hour. Please do not make it a Discussion Hour.

(*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record. What Shri Nitish Kumar is saying is not going no record.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: I feel this is very bad. If a member is a saying this, he must get up and say it...

MR. SPEAKER: That is not going on record.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: It is not correct. He must withdraw that word. It is very heartening to note this. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not going on record. But if you speak this that will go on record.