

Satya Murthy Committee on Farakka Barrage

*71. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had constituted Satya Murthy Committee on Farakka Barrage Project in May, 1992;

(b) If so, whether the said Committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(c) if so, when and the recommendations thereof; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENT AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) A Committee was set up by the Ministry of Water Resources in April, 1992. This Committee was re-constituted in May, 1992. Shri N. Satya Murthy, then Chief Engineer, Central Mechanical Organisation, Central Water Commission was its Chairman.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Committee submitted its report in December, 1994. It recommended that the present set up of the project could be initially converted into one General Manage/Chief Engineer, two Circles and 7 Divisions with strength of each Division and Circle being retained at the present level. It has also observed that staff to the extent of one Chief Engineer with two Circles may be required for Farakka downstream Hydro-Electric Project, whenever it is taken up. The staff strength can be reviewed downwards after Operation & Maintenance manual for the project is prepared by the General Manage of the project and jobs to be performed by each Division are identified. It has also recommended that the responsibilities of management of the estate to the large extent, school and hospital could be transferred to the State Govt. The Committee did not assess the requirement of Staff for security of the project but it recommended that requirement of staff for security would be in addition to what has been suggested for the project's functioning.

(d) The recommendations of the Committee are under examination of the Government.

[English]

Cellular Telephones

*72. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the criteria adopted for awarding contracts to the bidders of cellular telephones in various circles in the country ;

(b) whether there was a limitation of maximum two licences in category 'A' and category 'B' circles ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the particulars of the companies whose tenders have been accepted and the circles allotted to them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The tender for cellular Mobile Telephone Service was a 2-part tender opened in two stages. In first stage, the bidders were shortlisted based on eligibility, technical, commercial and financial criteria. In the 2nd stage, the financial bids of shortlisted bidders were evaluated on the basis of Net Present Value of total levy and payment schedule quoted by them for the 10 year period of the licence.

(b) No Sir. The Government has fixed a limit of maximum 3 licences that can be awarded to a single bidder company for category 'A' and 'B' circles. This restriction does not apply to 'C' category circles.

(c) The capping has been done to prevent monopoly of any single company and to encourage participation of a larger number of companies in the provision of this services.

(d) The details are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement*Names of Bidder Companies and Circles Offered for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service*

S.No.	Name of the Bidder Company/ Foreign Collaborators	Territorial Telecom : Circles offered.
1.	JT Mobile/ Telia, Sweden	Andhra Pradesh Punjab
2.	Modicom/Vanguard, USA	Punjab Karnataka
3.	Birla Comm./AT&T, USA	Gujarat Maharashtra