

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No, Sir. Only one complaint dated 22.1.1996 has been received from Akhil Bharat Anusuchit Jati Parishad.

(b) The complaint is about faulty telephone No 310967 of the Akhil Bharat Anusuchit Jati Parishad which in their view is being kept out of order deliberately on account of revenue and mala fide intention of the telephone staff. The faults on the telephone have been rectified and the same is working satisfactorily. This was also personally verified by the Telecom. District Manager, Rohtak on 22.2. 1996. No mala fide intention on the part of any particular staff has come to the notice after investigation.

#### Discrimination in Tendering Process

816. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that employees union of I.T.I. has complained to the Department of Telecommunications about discriminatory practices in tendering and ordering process which favour certain private manufacturers over the public sector units, particularly in case of repeat orders of 2 GHz microwave equipment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Indian Telephone Industries Employees' Union has alleged discrimination and favouritism regarding some tendering and ordering cases. The case of repeat order for 2 GHz Microwave Equipment has also been mentioned by the Union.

Department of Telecommunications placed orders to procure 1500 Terminals of 2 GHz Digital Microwave Equipment in June 1995 to meet urgent requirement. The orders were placed on the firms having valid type approval for the equipment on that date. These M/s. Shyam Telecom and M/s Fujitsu who had also participated in the earlier tender for 3500 Terminals. There was no other firm except these three having type approval at that time of placement of orders. The rates offered were as recommended by a duly constituted Committee consisting of officers from the technical commercial and financial wings of the Department. The Committee had recommended prices based on the reduced custom duty structure. It may be mentioned that the prices approved against this purchase were lower than those approved in the earlier tender. M/s. ITI were not considered for placement of orders in June 1995 as they had no valid type approval of the equipment on that date and also had sufficient orders in hand, as by that time they had supplied only about 100 Terminals against the order

840 terminals placed on them during 1993. Thus the allegation of the Union is not correct.

#### Telephone to Officers

817. SHRI K.M. MATHEW : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any requests have been received by the C.G.M. MTNL, New Delhi from various Ministries/ Departments for providing official telephones to the officers at their residences during recent months:

(b) if so, the details thereof, category-wise; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir, Requests have been received by the C.G.M. MTNL, New Delhi from various Ministries / Departments for providing official telephones to the officers at their residences.

Such requests are being registered under OYT (Special) category wherein there is no waiting list and telephones are easily available subject to technical feasibility.

All out efforts are made to make the area feasible by laying new cables in cases where the area is technically non feasible.

#### Doordarshan Channel Programmes

818. SHRI MANORANGAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Programme of Doordarshan channel, DD III and DD-CNN link up channel can be viewed on domestic T.V. sets in Delhi equipped with normal antennas;

(b) if not, whether the viewers have to instal disk antennas for their sets or utilize the services of cable-operators for viewing the programmes of these channels;

(c) the details of channel numbers of DD III and DD-CNN link up;

(d) whether it is proposed to make necessary technical arrangements for the above channels so that their programmes can be viewed on the TV sets of listeners with normal antennas;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the days and timings of news and current affairs programmes telecast by Doordarshan on DD-CNN link up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P. M. SAYEED) : (a) While DD - III programmes can be viewed on normal TV sets with an appropriate TV antenna, DD-CNN programmes can be viewed only by installing appropriate Dish Antenna System in Delhi.