

(c) the action taken against the persons found guilty; and

[Translation]

(d) the further steps taken by the Government to prevent this type of bungling taking place in other parts of the country?

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

(b) Departmental investigation was conducted. However, the allegations contained in the news-item could not be substantiated.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) Surprise inspections have been stepped up and CBI help is being taken wherever necessary. Special investigation cells of CBI are being set up for metropolitan cities to deal with malpractices. A Bill is introduced in Lok Sabha to further amend Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 providing for deterrent penalties against abettors as well as beneficiaries of malpractices like diversion of lines etc.

### Training Abroad

132. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for sending the officers abroad to get training;

(b) the number of officers of his Ministry went abroad to receive training during the last three years; and

(c) the total amount spent on the officers for importing training to them abroad during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) A Screening Committee of the Department of Telecom. selects the officers for training courses abroad keeping in view the specialisation of the officer, his/her experience, age, length of service and previous trainings etc.

(b) and (c). A *Statement* indicating the number of officers who were deputed abroad for training during the last 3 years and amount spent each year is enclosed.

### STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Year	No. of Officers deputed abroad for training	Amount spent on foreign training by the Department of Telecom.
1.	1991-92	64	Rs. 20 lakhs
2.	1992-93	42	Rs. 7.20 lakhs
3.	1993-94	289	Rs. 760 lakhs