

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) There is no Post Office by the name of District Post Office at Ekma, in Saran District. Therefore, the question of construction of building for locating District Post Office there does not arise. There is, however, a Sub Post Office at Ekma for which a Departmental building has been constructed.

(b) The Departmental building for the Sub Post Office Ekma was constructed in the year 1980 at a cost of Rs. 5,29,420.

(c) The Sub Post Office Ekma is located in the Departmental building.

(d) Ekma Sub Post Office has started functioning in the Departmental building from 16-10-80.

Complaints regarding bye-elections during last twenty months

2586. SHRI SURAJ BHAN :
SHRI ATAL BIHARI
VAJPAYEE :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) details of complaints relating to bye-elections received in the last twenty months by Election Commission from the public and political parties about rigging, misuse of Government power and money and also employing ex-dacoits in election campaign ;

(b) steps suggested by the Commission in this regard ; and

(c) proposals under consideration to curb these malpractices ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGAN NATH KAUSHAL) ; (a) A statement

received from the Election Commission with respect to details of complaints relating to bye-elections received in the last twenty months by Election Commission from the public and political parties about rigging, misuse of government power and money and also of employing ex-dacoits is set out in Annexure I. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3521/82]

(b) and (c). The Commission has suggested various changes in the electoral system for dealing with the problem. The principal recommendations made by the Election Commission in this behalf are set out in Annexure II. [Placed in Library See No. LT-3521/82]

These proposals along with other proposals on electoral reforms are under consideration of the Cabinet Committee to which the matter has been referred by the Cabinet. Further, the Election Commission has, on the eve of each General Election to Lok Sabha/State Assemblies been adopting the practice of issuing suitable guidelines for dealing with the matter. A copy of the Election Commission's letter dated 22nd April, 1980 which contains the guidelines issued in connection with the General Elections to the Legislative Assemblies of certain States is set out in Annexure III. [Placed in Library See No. LT-3521/82]

Tender for Disposal of "Unserviceable Stores" in Gujarat Circle

2587. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in September, 1981 the G. M. Telecommunications, Gujarat Circle finalised a one year tender for disposal of "Unserviceable stores" in favour of particular party;

(b) if so, whether the tender contained among other items G.I. wire, Iron and scraps, P.V.C. cable, copper wire, ACSR wire;

(c) whether it is a fact that the prices accepted for the above items in the tender are about 70 per cent lower than those obtainable in the open market;

(d) whether the name of the tenderer Contractor is Black-listed in other Units of this Department;

(e) how much worth of 'Unserviceable stores' has been lifted by the contractor till the end of January, 1982, whether the full payment has been made; and

(f) whether Government have investigated into this tender to expose corrupt practices, if so, the results thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) These being scrap items, a ready comparison of prices of the different types of these materials with those obtainable in the open market is not possible.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The following stores have so far been lifted by the contractor till the end of January, 1982 and for which payments have already been realised from the contractor :—

Material	Quantity
G.I. Wire	17,840 kgs.
Post Material	4,690 kgs.
ACSR wire pieces	5,032 kgs.
PVC cable pieces	329 kgs.

(f) The matter is under investigation.

Telephone Faults due to Faulty Instruments

2588. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that 40 per cent of the faults detected in telephones were due to faulty instruments; and

(b) if so, steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard, with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). About 30% to 40% faults are due to faults in instruments. Components and technology employed in the Telephone instruments are constantly kept up dated. I.T.I. has recently introduced the improved version of telephone instruments coded-677 having better performance.

Telephone instruments are tested at regular intervals and faulty telephone instruments are replaced by good, tested instruments.

टेलीफोनों का बकाया बिलों पर सरचार्ज

2589. श्री रास प्यारे पनिका : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि टेलीफोनों के बकाया बिलों पर सरचार्ज लगाने का प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं और उससे कुल कितनी आय प्राप्त होने की संभावना है ;