

(b) and (c) The collapse of the tunnel was a natural calamity. The offending official involved in the tarpaulin case referred to in the article has been punished after due enquiry.

Payment of Bills for computerisation work by Indian Institute of Mass Communications

4570. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Institute of Mass Communication undertakes computerisation for any of its activities ;

(b) whether it is a fact that heavy computerisation work was assigned to one of the former colleagues of Evaluation Professor in the last three years ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Computer bills for substantially large amount were paid without comparing the computer time charged and computer outputs delivered by that former colleague ; and

(d) if so, the details of computer time charged, the computer outputs received and the missing computer outputs ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Computer operations involve transferring of data from the field documents to the cards and/or then to tape before processing. The data thus entered need corrections, updating, sorting etc., for processing. Once the data are on the corrected tape file, these can be processed by a computer. Computer services of various types are available at

different installations. All the needs of a user cannot be met by any single installation.

As the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) does not have an in-house computer or programmer, it was felt necessary to appoint consultants for programming and carrying out computer operations at different installations as per the requirements of the Department of Evaluation. Six agencies responded to the quotations invited for this purpose. On the basis of comparative quotations, Messrs. S.C.G. Consultants were adjudged to be the lowest. It is correct that the Executive Director of this firm had been one of the colleagues of the present Head of the Department the Evaluation Studies of the IIMC before his joining the Institute.

The nature of computer services required by the Department of Evaluation Studies of the IIMC was such that apart from Messrs. S.C.G. Consultants, computer facilities available elsewhere, e.g., the Council for Social Development (C.S.D.) and Delhi University Computer Centre (DUCC) had also to be used. The C.S.D. was willing to run the computer at its installation but not willing to go to other installations. The DUCC was willing to offer computer at a concessional rate but not willing to undertake punching of programme support. Therefore, there was a need to split the work into preparation of tape files and running them at different installations. Messrs. S.C.G. Consultants had the facilities of the preparation of cards/images and transferring them on to tape for the preparation of tape files. They were also the only agency who were willing to go to various installations for undertaking the processing work. Hence they were requested to prepare data for computerisation and to run the processing at DUCC and CSD.

All the operations of computer operations do not yield computer outputs. For example, sorting, programme interrupt, error failures, voltage fluctua-

tions failure of experimentation, simulation, sorting, tape transfers/or disk to memory transfers etc. do not yield outputs. Outputs relating to analysis are available in the Department for all the computerised projects. Bills come from different installations and are checked for the work done by the officers concerned and recommended for payment. It is not correct to say that the bills for

large amounts were paid without comparing the computer time charged as computer output.

There are no missing computer outputs. The computer time used at different installations, rates and total expenditure incurred including unpaid bills in the last three years (1980-1983) is given in the statement attached.

Statement

Statement of Computerisation During 1980-83

	CSD Rs.	SCG Rs.	DUCC Rs.						
1. Computer time per hour.	1000.00	250.00	500.00*						
2. Data entry/ punching	200.00	200.00	—						
	Hrs.	Mts.	Sec.	Hrs.	Mts.	Sec.	Hrs.	Mts.	Sec.
3. Computer time utilisation.	31	52	35	09	36	00	51	56	52
4. Amount paid/ computer time.	31,875.50	2,400.03	25,973.89						
5. Data entry/ punching	2,011.40	12,811.20	—						
6. Stationary @ Rs. 130 per thousand pages.	2,346.60	—	—						
7. Travel charges (full)	—	1,524.90	—						
8. Service charges @ 10% of computer time.	—	2,265.79	—						
Total of items from 4 to 8	36,233.50	19,001.92	25,973.89						
			= 81,209.31						

Concessional rate for educational institutions, otherwise Rs. one thousand per hour.