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Title: Need to ensure that the rural telephone subscribers of Davangere Parliamentary Constituency, Karnataka who have been provided telephone connections from urban exchanges are charged rental rates applicable to rural subscribers. – Laid.

SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA (DAVANGERE): I would like to bring to the notice of the Union Government that the rent charges to rural telephone connections that have been given from urban exchanges are being charged urban rates. In my Parliamentary constituency, Davangere, Karnataka, the people living in villages of Yelebetur, Belavanur, Shiramagondanahally, Naganur and others which are connected from Vidyanagara city are facing great difficulties as these people have to pay the rent charges on urban rates.

Bheemasamudra in Karnataka is a business place. The people living in villages of Bheemasamudra, Bettadanagahalli, Bommenahalli, Basavapura, Hiregundanur, Hirekandavadi, V. Palaya and Nellikatter have to pay the rent at the same rate as is applicable to the people living in cities. This is not fair to the people of the villages whose earnings are very less in comparison with the city people.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government that the telephone connections provided from the urban exchanges to the villages should be charged less rent keeping in view of the financial capacity of villagers.