

larly in backward localities and districts where even though telephone connections have been given, but they are not working smoothly. The working of telephone network in Azamgarh area of Uttar Pradesh is not at all satisfactory. There are a large number of people in the waiting list and disturbances in telephone system are causing concern for the people who have already been given connections. Telephone lines mostly remain out of order. Local calls and trunk calls do not materialise. If a complaints is made, it is being replied that machines have become outdated and useless. For some reason or the other even the chairs shown in telephone bills are much higher than the amount worked out on the basis of number of calls made. Having been disappointed, a number of people have disconnected their telephone connections. Even telephones of peoples' representatives such as M.Ps, M.L. As and M.L.Cs are not working properly and it is a serious thing. Under the above circumstances, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Communication to take steps to streamline the telephone system in Azamgarh immediately and replace the existing telephone exchange at Azamgarh by an electronic exchange at the earliest.

**vii) Need to take effective steps to implement one rank one pension scheme**

PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL (Hamirpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government made an announcement in the first session of the House to give one rank one pension to ex-servicemen. But it has not so far taken any steps in this regard. Question put in the House in this regard has also not been replies clearly. Due to this ambiguity on the part of the Government a sense of discontentment and distrust is fast developing in the minds of ex-servicemen.

The Government must take immediate steps to fulfil the demand of 'one rank one pension' of the lakhs of ex-servicemen in the country and implement this decision so that justice could be done to them who have been fighting for this for last several years. We all

are determined to see that this demand of the ex-servicemen in fulfilled.

**viii) Need to issue licences to the hawkers selling goods in trains**

SHRI PRATAP SINGH (Banka): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a large number of hawkers are earning their livelihood by selling various commodities in trains in the Indian railways. Since long there has been a demand of hawkers to issue licences. While on the one hand this system will increase revenue to Indian Railways, on the other it will provide employment avenues to a large number of people. Passengers travelling in trains will also be benefited by their services. Though these people are selling their goods without licences but they have to innumerable difficulties in absence of licenceness. They are being harassed due to non-possession of licenceness. These people have bribe in compulsion to run their business. While this practice gives rise to corruption, it also tarnishes image of the hawkers before the passengers.

I would, therefore, like to make a demand to the Government to pass order immediately by considering sympathetically their the demand of issuing licences to these hawkers so that they could run their business fearlessly and earn their livelihood.

**(ix) Need to abolish taxes levied on electronic goods in Punjab and to declare it as Industrially backward State**

S. ATINDER PAL SINGH (Patiala): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like draw the attention of this august House to the following matter of public importance.

Due to excessive taxation the electronic industry is suffering heavy losses in Punjab, as a result thereof a number of small and medium electronic industries have either been closed or are on the verge of closure in Mohali and several other areas of Punjab. While the rate of this tax is quite low in its adjoining State, it is more than double in

[Sh. Atinder Pal Singh]

Punjab. As such it is very necessary to remove this disparity. It is creating problems for the marketing of electronic goods manufactured in Punjab in national and international markets. Goods manufactured in this industry are not selling in the market thus causing heavy losses to it.

I would, therefore, like to make a demand that taxes on electronic goods manufactured in Punjab should be totally abolished so that Punjab could emerge as an electronic industry State. I would also like to demand that the entire State of Punjab should be declared as an industrially backward State so that maximum employment avenues could be created in the State. At the same time Punjab should be provided all Central assistance as an industrially backward State which has not hitherto been given to it.

[English]

DR. THAMBI DURAI (Karur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I raised a point of order at 4 o'clock and we decided that we would take up the Mandal Commission debate at 4 o'clock. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): Sir, there is no consensus. Therefore, I request you to go by the List of Business. (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P UPENDRA): Sir, I requested for their cooperation. The proposal I gave was that if they insist on taking up the Mandal Commission debate, we can take up. Similarly, at 5.30 p.m., the Half-an-Hour discussion is there. The, at 6 o'clock, we can take up the Legislative Business as listed in the order and sit late until it is finished. That was the proposal for which they have agreed to. Now, since they say that there was no consensus, under rule 364, I formally request you to take the

decision of the House. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would like to know whether there is any consensus or not.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: No, No. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Well, Order Please. Now will you please pay your attention to what we say?

Today also I must congratulate you for working very diligently throughout the Session. Sometimes you might have given pin-pricks but all the time you were cooperating with us. Today also you shall have to cooperate with the presiding officer. In the interest of the traditions and conventions and ~~and~~ and the goodwill that prevails here, I have said that you should take to each other and you should decide as to how we should go about, to arrive at a consensus. I have also said that if you fail to decide, then I shall decide. I am now trying to decide. I hope that because you have reposed faith in the presiding officer, you would try to help the presiding officer.

Now, whatever I say would be in the interest of the entire House and the dignity and tradition of the House. I have full faith in you that you will support what I am saying.

My decision is that we are going to discuss the Mandal Commission for some time.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would say that we would start discussing the Mandal Commission from now and we will go upto 7 O'clock From 7 O'clock to 8 O'clock, we will take up the legislative business.

[English]

DR. THAMBI DURAI: Do not force us... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: How is