

[English]

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY I want to know whether Government is aware that by giving licences to the big Houses, the small entrepreneurs who are given trawlers on loan are affected? Since the big Houses encroach in the area where the latter are fishing, the small entrepreneurs are unable to pay back their loans (*Interruptions*) Is the Government aware of this fact? (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER Order please Mr Choudhury, please repeat so that the Minister may listen to you

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY Many small entrepreneurs have taken trawlers on loan. The Government has now issued licences to big Houses and the monopoly Houses (*Interruptions*) Those monopoly Houses are encroaching in areas where the small vessels are operating. As a result the position has come to this that the trawler owners are unable to pay the loan that they have taken from the Government. Is the Government aware of it? Is the Government also aware that the territory for fishing for each State is defined? From one State people are going to another State. So there is conflict. There is friction between those people. As a result in the coastal areas there is tension. Is the Government aware of it? In order to enforce the law that they have made, the State Government have asked the Central Government to give them vessels to enforce the law. Why is the Central Government not able to supply the vessels as promised to enforce the law so that there is no tension?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR Mr Speaker, Sir, keeping in view the problem mentioned by the hon. Member, a model Bill for regulating Marine Fishing was prepared by the Government and circulated to the State Governments. Some of the coastal States have already enacted law on the basis and

some of the coastal states have not done it. But the vessels are required to register themselves in the States, in the territory of which they operate. A number of safeguards have been taken in this regard. So far as setting up of an agency to enforce the Act is concerned, I have already stated that the Central Government wants to assist the States in this work by launching a centrally sponsored scheme and the matter is under consideration. The Government is also prepared to extend facilities viz capital etc which is required for boats or waterships and this matter is also under consideration (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY Sir, the Minister is not in possession of the fact, he may not give the reply, he may say that the information will be collected. But since I had put a question, I want a definite answer (*Interruptions*) It is a serious problem, I want to have a definite reply (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER The Minister has replied to your question, as far as possible and I have called Mr Yamuna Prasad Shastri. Please sit down, Mr Choudhury.

[Translation]

Setting up Telephone Exchange at Rewa in Madhya Pradesh

*308 **SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government had sanctioned a plan for setting up a telephone exchange of two thousand lines capacity in Rewa town of Madhya Pradesh during the year 1988-89

(b) if so, the reasons for not commencing the construction work so far, and

(c) the time by which the telephone exchange is likely to be set up there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) (a) to (c) Only a twelve hundred lines capacity electronic exchange was planned for the year 88-89 which has already been installed and is working. However, a new 2000 lines electronic exchange has now been proposed and the plan for building construction has been approved to accommodate this exchange. The building construction has been planned for completion by March, 1993. The telephone exchange is planned to be set up by the end of the 8th Five Year Plan.

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the hon Minister for his reply. Of course a 2000 line exchange will be set up within the Eighth Five Year Plan period. But what I would like to submit is that the present 1200 line exchange was set up when the population of Rewa was only 50,000. But now its population has crossed the mark of 2 1/2 lakhs with the construction of Ban Sagar Project, many Government Officers and staff have started living in the city. A few industries have also developed. The present waiting list of applicants seeking new connections is 1500. In view of this I would like to know from the hon Minister whether he would like to complete the setting up of the 2000 line exchange by the time the building construction work is completed by 1992-93 instead of waiting upto 1995.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA Mr Speaker Sir the capacity of electronic exchange at Rewa was increased only last year by 100 lines i.e. from 1200 to 1300. According to information available with the Government the present waiting list of applicants is 426. We are optimistic that as soon as the building construction work is completed we would try to get installed the sanctioned 2000 line electronic exchange immediately.

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI Mr Speaker, Sir, as has been stated by the hon Minister in reply to my supplementary that the capacity of the exchange has been

increased by 100 lines, I would like to state that the problem has not been solved by this extension. The population of the city has been increasing steadily and the city is also fast expanding. In view of this I would like that the building construction work should be completed by 1991 instead of 1992-93 and the 2000 line exchange should also be installed by this time. Will the hon Minister please pay attention to it? Besides, the information that the applicants in the waiting list is 426, is not correct. The number of applicants waiting for new lines is more than 1500. A number of new arrivals have taken place. As such, it is very necessary. In view of this please state whether the new exchange will be installed by 1991.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA Mr Speaker, Sir in view of the steady growth of population in Rewa city a 2000 line exchange has been sanctioned. Every effort will be made to complete the work of construction of the building. As soon as the construction work is completed steps will be taken to provide telephones to the waiting applicants.

SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIA Mr Speaker, Sir, electronic exchanges E-10 B which are to be installed in Madhya Pradesh have been sanctioned for Indore and Jabalpur. I would like to urge that this type of modern exchange should also be installed in Ujjain in 1992 on the eve of Kumbha Singhartha Parva. I would like to know whether the Government would be pleased to instal such an exchange there. There is an urgent need to increase the capacity of the existing telephone exchange. The number of applicants in the waiting list is very large there. Besides the Kumbha Singastha Parva is about to take place there so the working capacity of the telephone exchange should be made proper. Will the hon Minister please consider to instal a modern telephone exchange E-10 B in Ujjain also?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA Mr Speaker, Sir, as the practice in vogue, generally new telephone exchange is installed on the eve of Kumbh Mela. It will be done

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA Mr Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to point out that as and when we write for the installation of electronic exchanges, we get the stereo type reply that the work cannot be taken up for want of apparatus. In this connection, I would like to state that telephone is an income oriented apparatus and the Government does not suffer any loss on this account. Then what are the reasons that such demands are not met by procuring equipments at the earliest.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA Mr Speaker, Sir, manufacturing of telephone equipments takes a lot of time and correspondingly there are some hurdles in making allotments also. Of course, Telephone Department is an earning Deptt and as soon as telephone exchanges are manufactured they are allotted and the process takes time.

SHRICHHEDIPASWAN Mr Speaker, Sir, my question is not connected with Madhya Pradesh. Once I had put a question about Sasaram. Through you, I would like to know from the hon Minister whether there is a proposal to set up an electronic exchange at Sasaram?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA Mr Speaker, Sir, this point will be considered if a separate notice is given for this.

12.00 hrs.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

[English]

Reduction in Petroleum Products in Vehicles with Railways

S N Q No 1 PROF RAM GANESH KAPSE Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government had issued orders on the 21st June, 1990 to reduce the consumption of petrol and diesel by ten percent in vehicles of his Ministry and

(b) if so, the details of the reduction so made in the consumption of petrol and diesel, separately from the 21st June, 1990 to the 15th August, 1990?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) (a) The Ministry of Finance have issued instructions by their letter of June 27, 1990 that from 1990-91 the consumption of petrol and diesel in Government vehicles including staff cars should be reduced by 20% over the consumption during the year 1989-90. The instructions are also to the effect that the consumption of petrol and diesel in Government vehicles in the various Government offices for the remaining part of the current financial year should be so regulated as to reflect this overall reduction of 20%.

(b) The Finance Ministry has required that quarterly reports be sent to the Government on the compliance of this directive. The first such report will be available for the period ending September 1990 sometime during the month of October.

PROF RAM GANESH KAPSE In reply to Starred Question No 268 on the 28th August, 1990 the hon Minister narrated some steps which the Ministry had taken to reduce the consumption and the steps are proper house-keeping, accounting and monitoring the consumption of diesel oil by the locomotive drivers and all that. You have already mentioned them. Is a weekly register kept in the department and if it is not kept, will the hon Minister accept a suggestion to maintain a weekly register because of the probable adverse effect that may be there after the Kuwait issue has come and whatever is happening throughout the world? Will he accept this suggestion?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES It will not be possible to keep any weekly register in the department because the allocation of diesel etc. is being done at the point where the locomotives operate.

PROF RAM GANESH KAPSE At least a monthly register can be kept.