

SHRIDAUDAYALJOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he is trying to protect the then Minister and is not telling anything about him (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Joshi, please take your seat.

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, an order was issued on 27.12.88 for the setting up of Central Purchase Committee and it was constituted in January 1989 but the same was abolished in January, 1990..... (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Who was the Ministries charge at that time? Was he from the Congress Party or from the Janata Dal? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let him tell the name of the Minister also.

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: I have already stated that an order was issued on 27.12.88 for the setting up of a Central Purchase Committee which was constituted in January, 1989. At that time, Shri Bhajan Lal was the Cabinet Minister in charge... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have observed that they have taken the name of Shri Bhajan Lal in the House. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Speaker, I was not the Minister of State. I would like to know from him whether the file of the Central Purchase Committee is sent to the Minister of Agriculture? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now the Hon'ble Minister has admitted that there has been a bungling of Rupees 1 crore sir, in this case. As the case relates to the farmers and labourers I would, therefore, like to know from the Government the number of days in which the enquiry is likely to be completed by the C.B.I. and whether any time limit has been fixed for the same by the Government?

SHRI HAR GOVIND SINGH: So long Shri Bhajan Lal is here, nothing can be done.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, where is Shri Bhajan Lal?

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, no definite date can be fixed for completing the enquiry... (*Interruptions*) ...those who appear to be innocent but commit offence with the stroke of their pen, they are more crafty and dangerous than the gun wielding criminals. They will make their all out efforts to defend themselves. Therefore, it will take a long time to complete the work of enquiry against them. The officers of C.B.I. are going to delve deep in the case and it will take time. Therefore, it is difficult to say as to how much time it will take to complete it... (*Interruptions*) ...

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rajveer Singh, please sit down.

[*English*]

SHRI BAL GOPAL MISHRA: Just now, the hon. Minister admitted that misappropriation to the tune of Rs. 1 crore has taken place. So, will the Income Tax Department search and enquire into the wealth of the suppliers and the members of the CPC and the Executive? We are concerned about this.

[*Translation*]

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already stated in this regard that enquiry is being conducted by the C.B.I., search has been carried out in their houses and some incriminating documents have also been recovered from their houses in this regard. Unless and until the enquiry is completed nothing else can be said in this regard.

Waiting List for Telephone Connections in Madhya Pradesh Districts

*42. **SHRI LARANG SAI:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of applicants have deposited money for getting telephone connections in Ambikapur, Raigarh and Bilaspur districts of Madhya Pradesh but the telephone connections are yet to be sanctioned to them;

(b) if so, the number of such cases, district-wise;

(c) the time by which telephone connections are likely to be sanctioned to them;

(d) whether there is any provision for the payment of interest on the money deposited by the applicants; and

(e) if not, the justification for seeking advance payments from the applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR-MISHRA): (a) and (b). The waiting list as on 30.6.90 is 216 in Raigarh District, 304 in Ambikapur (Sarguja) District and 938 in Bilaspur District.

(c) It has been planned to sanction Telephone connections to the writing applicants during 1990-91 in Raigarh District and in the year 1992-93 in Ambikapur (Sarguja) and Bilaspur Districts.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

SHRI LARANG SAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the waiting list of applicants for telephone connections in Raigarh district will be covered during 1990-91 but the waiting applicants of Ambikapur and Bilaspur districts will be provided telephone connections during 1992-93. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister the reasons as to why the the applicants of Bilaspur and Ambikapur will be sanctioned telephones connections after a period of one year? What difficulties are there with the Government in sanctioning telephones to them? That is what I would like to know about it.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it depends on the availability of machines which are used in the Telephone Exchanges. As and when we get the machines, the same are allotted to the districts. As and when it is the turn of a particular district, the waiting list of that district is cleared. So now it is the turn of Raigarh district and other districts will be covered after one year.

SHRI LARANG SAI: Mr. Speaker Sir, it has been stated by the hon. Minister that the waiting list is 304 in Ambikapur, 938 in Bilaspur and 216 in Raigarh district. The applicants are paid interest on the money deposited by them. Now I would like to know from the hon. Minister the number of waiting applicants in Raigarh who have been given interest on the money deposited by them and also the number of such applicants in Ambikapur and Bilaspur districts who have been given interest on their money?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: I do not have the correct figures regarding the precise amount of interest with me. But interest is paid to the applicants at the rate of interest on the fixed deposits in the State Bank of India from the date on which the amount is deposited, upto the date of section of telephone connection to the applicants.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: The matter of waiting list of telephone connections is a very serious matter and this problem is confined not only to Raigarh, Ambikapur and Bilaspur districts but all the small cities in the entire country, where telephone Exchanges have been established. The number of people on the waiting list is much more than those who got telephone connections. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether he would able to say something in regard to providing telephone connections to all the persons on the waiting list during the Sixth Five year plan under the new telephone policy laid down by the Government?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the waiting list for telephone connections is 18 lakhs, by the time Eighth

Five year plan comes to an end. By that time, all the telephone Exchanges will be converted into the electronic ones.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has stated that with the changed system of telephone exchanges in Ahmedabad and Bhavanagar districts much better facilities have been provided there. But when we go to see the D.E.T. and ask him, he instantly quips that as yet they have not been provided with electronic Exchange. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister the time by which the electronic Exchanges will be provided in the entire Gujarat State.—

MR. SPEAKER: This question has become very comprehensive.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have also fixed a target of converting all the manual, age old and obsolete stronger and crose-Bar Exchange into electronic Exchanges during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

[English]

SHRI MANIK SANYAL: It is a very pertinent question. It concerns not only Raigarh, Bilaspur and Ambikapur but in my opinion the whole of India. I think the hon. Minister is aware of the position of my District, Jalpaiguri. It's a worst affected district from the point of view of new telephone connections. A number of applications are pending before the Telephone Department. They are not giving new connections.

MR. SPEAKER: This question is confined to certain places.

SHRI MANIK SANYAL: The manually operated board is not functioning well in my district. Though the Minister is very much considerate to introduce an electronic exchange in my district, it should be introduced by 1991-92. But I do not know when will it be introduced. Will he consider to change the present manually operated board so that the people in my district would be able to get new

telephone connections whose applications for new telephone connections are pending before this Department?

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already stated in the beginning itself that all the manual exchanges will be converted into electronic exchanges during the Eighth Five Year Plan but in Jalpaiguri it would be done during the year 1992-93 and by that time the waiting list will be cleared.

MR. SPEAKER: It was a specific question and the Minister is not giving any new information. So I am going to take up the next question.

[English]

Restoration to DTC Bus Service in Trans Yamuna Area

43. **SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Transport Corporation has restored all services routes in Trans-Yamuna area especially in Anand Vihar as the construction work of roads/sewer lines has since been completed;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal for additional DTC terminal in Trans-Yamuna area and whether land has been offered in Anand Vihar for this purpose; and

(d) if so, when the work is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNKRISHNAN): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). DTC has restored all routes