

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, I need your protection.

MR. SPEAKER : Because it is a case of lady, I shall give you protection. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I am stating the facts.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : No.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I am quoting from the book on which you have relied.

I am quoting from that.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I have put a specific question.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : From whatever facts you have given, by whatever sources you have, I have found from enquiry that there is no ground to spect any *mala fide*. It is a question of reconciliation and that process is going on. If we find that any mischief is being done anywhere, we will not hesitate to take action.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Sir, allow me to lay on the Table of the House, the letter, of one of the members of the very Council of this body. I request the Minister to go through it and to take appropriate action. Without going into all that, he should not apply cosmetics to the financial mismanagement.

MR. SPEAKER : Send it to him.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I am not used to cosmetics. (*Interruptions*)

Normally it is the privilege of the ladies.

MR. SPEAKER : If you do that, will allow a privilege motion against you.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Now, Sir, the roles have been reversed.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will request the Hon. Member to send whatever information she has, I will pass it on to my colleague, the Minister of Industries for whom I am deputising here today, for necessary action.

Manufacture of Epabx by Indian Telephone Industries at Palghat

*417. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) has designed a EPABX incorporating many unique features;

(b) if so, whether this technology will be utilised by the Indian Telephone Industries in manufacturing EPABX at its Palghat factory ; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : The Hon. Minister has given answer to the (a) and (b) parts of my question in affirmative. If it is so, I would like to know the reason for allowing import of three foreign technologies.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : These three foreign technologies were allowed some-time back before the C-DOT and EPABX were evolved. Therefore, we cannot stop at this stage when C-DOT technologies also are going to be tried and other manufactures are going in for collaboration. The procedure followed was that global enquiries were invited and a number of foreign companies quoted their terms, etc. for transfer of technology of Indian parties in the State sector as well as in the private sector. As a result of the evaluation, three technologies were selected from foreign countries and the choice was given to all the parties to have licence to collaborate with any one of them. After this has happend, C-DOT brought out this model of EPABX. Now 90 parties have applied for accepting this technology of C-DOT. We have not yet decided to whom to give licence for this. But looking into the great rush for this indigenous technology of ours, some decision will be taken very soon.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : I thank the Hon. Minister for giving me such a detailed reply. I would like to know whether the centralised purchase of technology will be given up in favour of C-Dot *i.e.*, the Centre for Development of Telematics.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : I am grateful to the hon. Member for putting so much confidence in our technology. We share her views and we are fully backing up the C-DOT so far as this work is concerned. Uptill now they have brought out what we call a laboratory model and the production model would be put to field trials shortly. So we want a parallel development of technology indigenously as well as from some foreign source.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : In principle we are not opposed to import of foreign technology. But then we must see that when we import foreign technology in tele-communications our people are trained to instal and operate this technology.

In this context I wish to tell you that about 3 or 4 years ago some Japanese telephones were imported by us and one of them was installed at my house. Now, when it was installed, the first thing that happened was that the man in charge of telephones said that this telephone was defective. But after 5 minutes it started working and he says 'Now it is all right'. So whenever this Japanese telephone goes out of order, the Engineer-in-charge of Shahjehan Road comes there and he says that he cannot do anything and 'We have to substitute the entire instrument.' This is the relevant point. He says 'None of us is trained in repairing this telephone and we know nothing about this telephone.' Some buttons are there and I think they are simply decorative and have not function to perform. So, will the Minister see that when we import this technology, simultaneously our people are also trained to understand and operate this technology and also to repair the instruments if they go out of order—which is not happening at present.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : The problem raised by the hon. Member is a very real one because when we go from one technology to another higher technology,

the problem of re-training our own staff for adopting to the new technology does arise. Particularly, when we go from an electro mechanical set up to an electronic set up the jump in the technology is very high and very fast. We are conscious of this problem and are trying to retrain our staff at various levels so that this technology is absorbed properly and the problem faced by the hon. Member need not arise.

MR. SPEAKER : Next question—Shri Wangpha Lowang...Shri Sode Ramaiah...

[*Translation*]

**World Bank aid for Lohari Nagpal
Hydel Project, Uttar Pradesh**

*420. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Uttar Pradesh have submitted a proposal to the Union Government for financial aid from the World Bank for construction of Lohari Nagpal Hydel Project;

(b) if so, the date on which this proposal was submitted and the amount of assistance asked for therein; and

(c) the reaction of the World Bank thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Uttar Pradesh had submitted the proposal on 15-11-1983 for the project estimated to cost Rs. 177.2 c ores.

(c) The proposal could not be followed up with the World Bank, as Environmental and Forest clearances, and an investment decision on the project have not been received.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, talks between the officials of the Ministry and U.P. government officials have been held a number of times regarding Environmental and Forest clearances and investment decision, but this project has not been