

## LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, November 26, 1985/Agrahayana 5,  
1907 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of  
the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :  
Many Ministers have quit the Government,  
Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Is it the latest infor-  
mation ?

Shri Mohd. Mahfooj Ali Khan.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Highly Inflated Bills Issued by Delhi  
Electric Supply Undertaking

\*122. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOJ ALI  
KHAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be  
pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government  
has been drawn to the news item appearing  
in 'The Economic Times' of 6th September,  
1985 highlighting the difficulties being faced  
by the consumers because of the highly  
inflated bills issued by Delhi Electric Supply  
Undertaking, non-adjustment of the excess  
charged and payment of the bills under  
'duress'; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by Govern-  
ment to streamline the working of Delhi  
Electric Supply Undertaking to improve

the situation and to avoid unnecessary  
harassment to the consumer ?

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

(b) The measures taken by the Delhi  
Electric Supply Undertaking to provide a  
better service to the consumers include  
improvements in the computerised billing  
system; on-the-job training to the staff to  
improve the skills with a view to minimise  
and rectify errors in billing and collection of  
dues; expansion of time to enable consumers  
to pay their bills; and increase in the number  
of cash collection offices and points.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN:  
As you have stated that the training in  
computer system would be imparted and it  
is being given also, it is a good step. But I  
would like to cite an example as to what  
extent the bills are inflated. Shri H. N.  
Bahuguna's bill for the last month was for  
Rs. 38,000, but when he got it corrected, it  
was re-billed for Rs. 4,000 only. Today, the  
consumer does not get any facility. He has  
to stand in long queues and the time allowed  
for making payment of the bills is too short.  
I want to know from the hon. Minister how  
long this highhandedness will continue ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :  
Sir, today we have a large number of  
consumers and the Computer Billing System  
which the DESU have at present is not their  
own. They have hired the services of an  
agency. DESU will have its own Computer  
Billing System in the next 8 or 9 months.  
In the meantime, we are also imparting in-  
service training to the staff. Besides, a  
number of other measures are also being  
adopted to ensure that there is no wrong  
feeding in the computer. At present, there  
are 36 cash centres functioning in Delhi  
and apart from that 71 places are covered  
by mobile cash vans to avoid long queues  
at the cash centres.

**SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN :**

In the first place a very short time is allowed for getting the bills corrected and on the other hand, excess amount is got deposited. When the consumers go there with the complaint, the adjustment of that amount is not done in the subsequent bill, which causes a lot of inconvenience to the common man. My request is that firstly the feeder system of the computer should function correctly, and the other thing is that your meter readers do not come for meter reading. They sit at home and prepare the bills with guess work, which causes a lot of inconvenience to the consumers.

**SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :**

Sir, our effort is to bring about improvements in the working. We shall give due weight to the suggestions made by the hon. Member.

[English]

**SHRI ANIL BASU :** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to give us the upto date total accumulated outstandings against DESU in respect of the NTPC, Badarpur? What are the measures contemplated to be taken to recover them and is the NTPC, Badarpur being treated at par with the others by DESU in such matters?

**SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :** The outstandings against DESU for the supply of power from Badarpur Thermal Station are Rs. 357.91 crores and from Singrauli Rs. 16.90 crores. We are writing to DESU to clear their dues. The NTPC is also in touch with them. They are persuading them to make these payments. Before 9 April, 85 electricity was being supplied to Delhi consumers at a relatively cheaper rate. After the revision of tariff rate from 9 April, 85 the payment position of DESU has improved and now they are making total payment to NTPC for the power supply.

**SHRI ANIL BASU :** Will NTPC treat other SEBs at par with DESU?

**SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :** I do not think it is proper to say that they should be treated at par because DESU is supplying electricity to the consumers of the national capital.

### Production/Import of Polio Vaccine

\*125. **SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the firms producing polio vaccine in the country and the annual output thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that this vaccine is also being imported and if so, the annual import thereof and the countries from which it is imported;

(c) the cost per dose of the imported vaccine as compared to that of the indigenous vaccine;

(d) whether a licence is required for its import and if so, the criteria for sanctioning such licences; and

(e) whether Government have any control over fixing the price of vaccine, imported or indigenous, under the provisions of the Drugs Price Control Order, 1979?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (e). A Statement is given below.

### Statement

(a) Commercial production of Polio Vaccine Concentrate has not yet commenced in the country.

(b) To meet the requirement of the country, Polio Vaccine is being imported mostly as Concentrate. Sources of import are USSR, Belgium, Italy and France. The imported Concentrate is blended, diluted and ampouled in the country. To the extent information is available details of import are at Annexure.

(c) The price fixed for oral Polio Vaccine based on imported Concentrate is Rs. 0.461 per dose.

(d) Polio Vaccine is covered under the Open General Licence (OGL) of the Import Export Policy. However, under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and the rules thereunder a licence is required for its import.

(e) Yes, Sir.