

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I will just give an example. In a selection test held by the Delhi Municipal Corporation for students in primary schools, the answer books of 315 candidates out of 3000 students were identical. Is there any method under the consideration of the Government to remove such malpractices?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: The hon. Member has put question regarding primary schools. This does not arise out of the main question.

देश में टेलीफोन कनेक्शन और हाजीपुर तथा बिहार के बीच डायल घुमाकर सीधा टेलीफोन करने की व्यवस्था

* 308. श्री रामविलास पासवान : क्या संचार मंत्री निम्नलिखित जानकारी दर्शाने वाला एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखने की रूपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय समूचे देश में कितने टेलीफोन कनेक्शन हैं ;

(ख) इस समय बिहार में कितने टेलीफोन कनेक्शन हैं ; और

(ग) क्या सरकार का बिहार में हाजीपुर से दिल्ली तक डायल घुमाकर सीधा टेलीफोन करने की व्यवस्था करने का विचार है ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) The number of telephone connections all over the country as on 1-4-80 was 20,14,148.

(b) The number of telephone connections in Bihar, as on 1-4-80 was 54,601.

(c) No, Sir. Hajipur is at present served by manual exchange of 200 lines capacity. S.T.D. will be provided to Delhi in due course after the installation of an automatic exchange.

श्री राम विलास पासवान : जहां तक टेलीफोन कनेक्शन का सम्बन्ध है, उसमें जन्म से

लेकर मृत्यु तक भ्रष्टाचार है। जिन लोगों के पास टेलीफोन हैं, उन्हें यह बात मालूम है। स्टीफन साहब को मालूम होगा कि जब टेलीफोन का कनेक्शन दिया जाता है, तो चार पांच हजार रुपये बूस ली जाती है और उसके बाद क्या क्या घांघलियां होती हैं, यह भी उन्हें मालूम होगा। इस बारे में मैं ने उनको एक पत्र लिखा था। उन्होंने मुझे एक नम्बर भी दिया था और कहा था कि आप उस नम्बर को डायल कर लें। लेकिन वह नम्बर भी हमेशा बिजी मिलता है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि टेलीफोन कनेक्शन देने के क्या क्राइटेरिया हैं, क्या नियम हैं। (व्यवधान)

श्री मनीराम बागड़ी : कोई टेलीफोन ठीक नहीं रहता है। सब के टेलीफोन खराब हैं। जो लोग कहते हैं कि उनका टेलीफोन ठीक है, वे गलत कहते हैं।

श्री राम विलास पासवान : कोई टेलीफोन काम नहीं कर रहा है। मैं ने पूछा है कि क्या टेलीफोन कनेक्शन देने के लिए कोई नियम बना हुआ है या नहीं। इसके अलावा प्रायर्टी बेसिस पर अफसरों, मंत्रियों और वी० आई० पी० को जो रेजीडेंशल कनेक्शन दिया जाता है, उसके लिए भी कोई नियम बना हुआ है या नहीं? यदि ऐसे कोई नियम हैं, तो कितने दिनों में कनेक्शन दे दिया जाता है और विभाग के पास जो एप्लिकेशनज पेंडिंग हैं, वे अधिक से अधिक कितने समय से पड़ी हुई हैं—उन एप्लिकेशनज के पेंडिंग होने का मैक्सिमम पीरियड क्या है ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): Sir, obviously this question does not relate to the question that has been asked. This is only about Patna connections and all that. But I avail of this opportunity to explain the position. It is not as if there are no rules. There are rules. There are two types of applications. One is what is known as OYT for which you will have to pay Rs. 5000 and register yourself. The other comes under the general category. You have got to pay Rs. 1000/- and register yourself, and in both these cases there is a special category. About what should be treated as a special category there are certain definite rules. Doctors come under that, public men of great reputation come under that, and retired Government servants who are at a particular level come under that. Sir, there are

specific cases which are spelt out. They alone come under the special category.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: What is OYT?

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: Own Your Telephone.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Over Indulgence in Telephoning.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: I said, 'OYT' and not 'OIT'. That is all the difference. (Interruptions). And if anybody has got a claim that he should come under the special category, but has not been put in that, there is a Telephone Advisory Committee. This Committee can process and give their opinion as to whether he should come under this or the other. And then it is granted only in accordance with the date of registration. This is the total picture. There is a specific small quota which can be granted on a priority basis and for that the Telephone Advisory Committee has got the jurisdiction. There the position was that every Telephone Advisory Committee Member could just give two connections. After I became the Minister, I have cancelled that. Nobody has got the right for that. Only the Telephone Advisory Committee can, by a vote, decide as to whether the priority must be given in a particular manner and nobody can go beyond this. And if it must be got otherwise than in the order of priority, it can be done only at the Director level. I have taken a position that out-of-turn will not be given at all. This is the position which the present Director has now taken.

Now, my difficulty is, I am getting repeated requests from my colleagues asking for out-of-turn, out-of-turn and out-of-turn. Anything that is given out-of-turn means that there are thousands of people standing in the queue and you are jumping over the other and pushing them down.

According to me this is the most inequitable thing that can be done. That cannot be done at all. This strict position is being taken. I want to assure Mr. Paswan that the granting of a telephone connection is guided by specific rules, which have got a statutory force. In my consideration, if that is jumped over, they have got even a judicial right to get that redressed because it is governed by statutory provisions. Mr. Paswan said that I know that it is riddled with corruption and that one has to pay Rs. 5000. I am not aware of that pre-requisite that one has got to pay Rs. 5,000. One has got to pay Rs. 5,000 if he wants to register for OYT. Otherwise, not. This is the position.

श्री राम बिलास पासवान : अध्यक्ष जी, मेरे पहले प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं आया है। मैंने पांच हजार रुपये जो बाई टी के लिए नहीं कहे थे, मैंने कहा था कि जब पांच हजार रुपये बूस देते हैं तब उनको टेलीफोन का कनेक्शन मिलता है। मैं इसकी एग्जाम्पल भी दे दूंगा। लिखित रूप में मैं इसकी एग्जाम्पल दे दूंगा।

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: I would request my hon. friend to give me one single instance and I would pursue it mercilessly.

श्री राम बिलास पासवान : मेरा पहला प्रश्न था कि आपके यहाँ कितने दिनों के अन्दर सामान्यतया टेलीफोन कनेक्शन मिल जाता है और मैक्सिमम कितने पीरियड से एप्लीकेशन्स पेंडिंग हैं ?

C. M. STEPHEN: I will have to answer that. That depends on the waiting list. There is a total number of 3,50,000 persons on the waiting list in the whole of India. In Bombay, for example the waiting list is of the order of 1,10,000; in Delhi—54,000; Calcutta also, it is of that order. There are persons who are on the waiting list for the last six or seven years. Therefore, there is no statement as to when I can give. What I am now thinking is to resort to a massive import programme so that

the waiting list can be cleared and we expect that it can be done by the year 1982. In the course of the last three years, the production programme was completely stalled. We had a production programme of increasing our production by which we could have met our requirement by this time. The production programme should have taken place in Rae Bareilly. May be, because it was Rae Bareilly or for some other reason, the whole programme was stalled with the result now I have got to grapple with the problem of meeting an accumulated demand for 3,50,000 connections. Now it can be done only by importing at a considerable cost to the exchequer.

There is no other alternative. This is the programme which is being resorted to. The production programme is being expanded. Both on the electro-mechanical side and electronics side, the programme is going ahead. There is no specific statement that within such and such a period, it can be given. In the order of priority it will be given.

श्री राम विलास पासवान : मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न एस० टी० डी० के सम्बन्ध में है

PROF. N. G. RANGA: Has he not put two questions already?

MR. SPEAKER: No This is his second supplementary.

SHRI HARINATHU MISRA: I am on a point of order.

अभी माननीय सदस्य दूसरा प्रश्न शुरु कर रहे हैं तो यह कब पूरा होगा, कोई लिमिट है या नहीं ?

MR. SPEAKER: That is not relevant.

श्री राम विलास पासवान : मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न एस० टी० डी० के सम्बन्ध में था। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ आप जो एस० टी० डी० देते हैं उसका क्या क्राइटीरिया है...

MR. SPEAKER: That question has already been answered...

श्री राम विलास पासवान : वह एस० टी० डी० के बारे में नहीं, लोकल के बारे में था।

मैंने हाजीपुर से पटना तक सीधी लाइन के सम्बन्ध में पूछा था तो आपने कहा दिया "जी नहीं"। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि पटना के बगल में हाजीपुर है, पटना के लिए डायलिंग करें तो दो मिनट में दिल्ली से मिल जाता है लेकिन हाजीपुर लगाने के लिए दिन भर इन्तजार करते हैं फिर भी नहीं मिलता है। हाजीपुर जिला मुख्यालय भी है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि डायरेक्ट एस० टी० डी० के सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या नीति है? इस नीति के तहत जो डिस्ट्रिक्ट हेडक्वार्टर्स हैं, जैसे हाजीपुर और बैराली वह आते हैं या नहीं? अगर आते हैं तो आपने "न" कैसे कह दिया?

SHRI KARTIK ORAON: I very well appreciate the anxiety of the hon. member. But there are certain rules, by which we have to be guided. Hajipur is a district headquarters, no doubt. It is manned by 200 lines of manual exchange. Automatic Exchange is a pre-requisite for STD connections...

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: What is the criterion?

SHRI KARTIK ORAON: Unless you have got an automatic Exchange at Hajipur, you cannot have STD connections from Delhi or other places

First there has to be commissioning of the automatic exchange at Hajipur and only then automatic exchange will be connected to TAX Patna. Then only you can get STD connection through Patna TAX to Delhi.

श्री राम विलास पासवान : कौन वेंगा। आप ही दीजिएगा। कल क्या है ?

SHRI KAHTIK ORAON: There are certain rules. The district headquarters have got to be first connected with State capitals. Then only you can have STD facility.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: The entire telephone system is in a mess. We MPs are supposed to be entitled to STD. My telephone has been replaced thrice. I could not put

through any call. Even now that does not function. Such is the state of affairs with regard to MPs. I can now well understand and we have apprehensions that there is tapping also.

MR. SPEAKER: This does not relate to the main question. Please put a relevant question.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: In regard to STD facility, the telephones should be kept in proper order so that those who are entitled to this facility are not actually denied of it.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: In the first place, I would like to disabuse my friend's mind from the notion and tell him that MPs have got no exclusive or special facility for STD. Nothing like that. STD is available to all people who have got a telephone connection which has got STD facility. If an MP starts dialling STD, he will find himself in a soup, finding that after a few STD calls, he reaches 500 calls limit and he will have to go on paying money. Let my hon. friend be freed of that notion and be aware of that.

As regards STD call, there is a mechanical operation. It must go through different exchanges and then only a call can land up. The machine and the wire do not show any special respect for the Members of Parliament or the Ministers.

Minor Irrigation in drought Prone Areas

*309. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to increase the allotments under the Minor Irrigation to drought prone areas; and

(b) if so, the amount to be increased during Sixth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) and (b). Allocation of funds for minor irrigation for drought prone areas under the Sixth Five Year Plan is under consideration of the Government.

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: May I know whether it is a fact that the State Governments have sent proposals to increase allotment for minor irrigation in drought prone areas and, if so, whether the Central Government is going to accept their proposals?

SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO: As I have already stated the allocation of funds for minor irrigation for drought prone areas under the Sixth Plan is under consideration. The proposals of all the State Governments will be taken into account while a decision is taken. In fact, so far, the minor irrigation programme has been carried out under the Drought prone Area programme (DPAP). It has been left to the State Governments to make allocations for minor irrigation works under the programme. The guidelines are provided by the Centre, 50 per cent expenditure is met by the Government of India and 50 per cent matching expenditure is incurred by the State Government. So, the Central Government has no specific programme of incurring expenditure on minor irrigation alone.

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: May I know whether the funds will be given for exploration of ground water and, if so, whether the Government is giving subsidy for boring wells to agriculturists and also carry water from wells to the fields through cement pipes?

SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO: That is a separate programme, the Command Area Development Programme which helps the farmers. That programme we are already implementing. But the hon. Member's suggestion for further help will be examined if