

through advertisements and write-ups in the directories to dial before they dig. Therefore, whenever the municipal or any other department etc. want to dig, they should dial us so that we can tell them, if there is anything, and we do try to have that coordination. And because of the expansion in cities like Madras, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi etc., we have to undertake the digging operations continuously. Of course, we can avoid more digging for repairs by introducing the system of ducting, and we are introducing that system. By this we will not be required to remove the cables underground. Then, fibre optical technology is also coming up, by this a small portion of optical fibres carries thousands of lines. That system is coming and in course of time, this problem will be reduced in metropolitan cities.

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR : I am extremely sorry to say that among all the departments of the Central Government, the Telephone Department is the worst possible department. This has been unanimously pointed out by all the Chief Ministers of this country, all the political parties, Members of Parliament and MLAs as also private people. My telephone was not working for ten days in Madras. Nobody cares.

SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN : As an ex-employee, I take very strong objection to this. He may be an ex-employee.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Now we can understand why he is not working there.

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR : So far as the use of telephones by private parties is concerned, they are cutting out the connections if the delay caused is more than three months. Dr. Swamy's question is with special reference to the heaviest dues payable by the Bombay Municipal Corporation to the Government.

MR. SPEAKER : No, no; it is the other way round. The Municipal Corporation has to get money from the Government.

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR : What is the action taken by the Municipal Corporation against this Government ?

MR. SPEAKER : You have to ask the Municipal Corporation, and not these people.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Sanat Kumar Mandal, Mr. Parmar and Mr. Nihal Singh are not there. Now Mr. K. A. Swami.

Norms for setting up of Broadcasting and T.V. Stations

*711. **SHRI K.A. SWAMI :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the norms prescribed for establishing and installing Broadcasting and T.V. Stations, Relay stations and Vividh Bharati in different parts of the country;

(b) whether these norms were observed in the case of Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Yes, sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Selection of places for setting up a Radio Station or a T.V. Centre takes into account various factors, such as, extent of coverage to rural and urban population, service to border areas, remote and backward areas, coverage of large segment of working class/industrial population, availability of programme production and programme linking facilities and other infra-structure. The needs of places of cultural, historical and industrial importance

are also taken into account. This is further subject to availability of resources and relative priorities of projects.

2. The Relay Stations are mainly established to expand the radio and T.V. coverage from the main Station located in the State/region.
3. There is no norm laid down for opening a Vividh Bharati/Commercial Station. However, looking to the popularity of commercial programmes AIR introduced Vividh Bharati Service mainly in large cities which were already having radio coverage on primary channel.

SHRI K.A. SWAMI : I am not satisfied with the Minister's answer. He has not given a straight answer. In respect of the TV stations and relay stations which came into being before and after the Non-Aligned Meeting, i.e. when they were installed, did they observe all the norms laid down by the Ministry ?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : I have already mentioned in my Statement, the norms which are adopted for deciding on the location of relay stations, TV stations and so on.

SHRI K.A. SWAMI : Were these norms followed in the case of Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh ?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : As far as Visakhapatnam is concerned, in the Special Plan prepared with regard to Andhra Pradesh, Visakhapatnam has been selected and there is going to be a 10 Kw high Power transmitter there. I hope it will be commissioned during this year itself.

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO : In Karimnagar district, the Minister has taken a decision to have a TV station. When is it going to be commissioned-on which date ?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : Karimnagar has also been chosen as a low power transmitter centre. We hope to commission

it during this year itself. (*Interruptions*) Instead of giving a reply in respect of individual stations, I would say that the stations which have been selected already will, by and large, come into operation during this year, i.e. by the end of this year.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : This question relates to broadcasting stations TV stations, relay stations and also their installation in various parts of the country. I will confine my question to the working of broadcasting stations and TV stations in various States. Very recently, in Karnataka, the State Government has instructed the broadcasting stations and TV Stations to give all distorted versions, which are irrelevant. The management of such stations is also hopeless. They are creating a situation wherein even wrong things are broadcast. Has this aspect been enquired into? The TV programme has not been covered properly; TV coverage in Karnataka State is in a bad shape. Will you kindly streamline TV Station in Karnataka and give proper guidelines to them so that they must broadcast programmes on the TV according to the guidelines given by the Central Government ? (*Interruptions*) Even, the President's visit was not properly broadcast from the TV Station in Karnataka. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : We are having a discussion on the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting today; and in that I should be prepared to give them information regarding any particular place they wish to have; that information is with me; broadly I will say whether it is Karnataka or any other State, the instructions are like these. If the hon. member has any grievance about any particular place and if he brings it to my notice, I shall be glad to discuss it. (*Interruptions*).

PROF. N.G. RANGA : What has happened to a long time Promise with regard to TV in Tirupati?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : It will also become operational during this year itself.

MR. SPEAKER : Bhagalpur and Jaipur too.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : I had said by and large. (Interruptions) I am using the word 'by and large', because at the most a few places will be covered. (Interruptions).

SHRI E. BALANANDAN : Is it possible to cover Cochin, Calicut and Trivandrum immediately?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : I think the hon. Mmber will feel happy to know that we have decided that the transmitter which will be available now from Trivandrum-we have put up a new transmitter which will open shortly; that has been shifted to Calicut and Calicut will soon have it.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : भागलपुर के बारे में भी बताइए ।

श्री राम विलास पासवान : वह कब कमीशन होगा ?

श्री सतीश अग्रवाल : भागलपुर में क्या करेंगे । वहाँ तो लोगों को ब्लाइन्ड कर दिया था ।... (इयबधान)...

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : Bhagalpur is also in the list for TV Station.

Telephone Advisory Committees in the States

*712. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of States, where the Telephone Advisory Committees are functioning ;

(b) what are their powers and functions; and

(c) the criteria and pattern of selection followed for selecting members of these Committees with details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL) : (a) 22 Telephone and Telecommunication Advisory Committees in 15 States are functioning as on 1-4-84. The names of the States and Telephone Districts where these Committees are functioning are given in statement-I which is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The powers and functions of Telephone Advisory Committees are given in statement-II which is placed on the Table of the House.

(c) Members of Parliament on these Committees are nominated by the Department of Parliamentary Affairs. Heads of Telecom. Circles/Telephone Districts recommend a panel of names under other categories of interests to be represented on the Advisory Committees. The recommendations thus received, alongwith the other names received directly in the P & T Directorats and by the Minister are further considered and out of these names the Minister of State for Communications nominate the Members of the concerned Telephone Advisory Committee.

A Member of the Committee should normally be residing in the geographical jurisdiction of the Telephone District in the case of a District Telephone Advisory Committee and in the concerned State or Union Territory in the case of State Telecommunication Advisory Committee.