

विदेश मंत्री (श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी) : (क) प्रो. (ख) जी हाँ। विदेशी हिन्दी लेखकों को सम्मानित करने के लिए केन्द्रीय हिन्दी समिति की उप-समिति ने 22 दिसम्बर, 1975 को एक पुरस्कार समिति का गठन किया था। पुरस्कार देने के लिए अभी किसी व्यक्ति को नहीं चुना गया है, बल्कि हाल ही में केन्द्रीय हिन्दी समिति का पुनर्गठन किया गया है तथा पुरस्कार समिति का पुनर्गठन करने के संबंध में कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ताकि इसकी सिफारिशों को अन्तिम रूप दिया जा सके।

Loss to Communication System due to Cyclone in Tamilnadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh

*522. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to the recent cyclone in the Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh, the loss to communication system was very high;

(b) if so, the total damage caused to the communication system in these States; and

(c) the steps being taken to repair the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI) : (a) Yes Sir, the loss to communication system in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh was very high. Preliminary estimates of the loss are of the order of Rs. 15 lakhs in Tamil Nadu and Rs. 60 lakhs in Andhra Pradesh. The loss in Kerala was not substantial.

(b) Total damage caused to these communication system in these States is reported to be as follows:—

Tamil Nadu : Trunk communication to Nagapattinam town was completely disrupted. Srirangam 300 lines auto exchange was completely flooded. Approximately 7500 telephone lines in Thanjavur, Trichy and Cuddalore and Salem divisions were affected by flood and cyclone.

Andhra Pradesh : Approximately 8,000 Kms of open wire lines and 48,000 Kms. of wire were damaged, disrupting the open wire communication system. 22238 local

telephones and 167 exchanges including 34 trunk centre (and larger exchanges) and 133 small automatic exchanges (SAXs) in the rural areas went out of order. Rural communication circuits which are mainly on open wire lines were the worst affected, causing telecommunication to many rural areas to be cut off.

Kerala : In Kerala the only damage was to the wireless station antenna on Kalpeni Island, Lakshadweep.

(c) **Tamil Nadu :** Out of about 7509 lines which went out of order on 12-11-77, about 6400 lines were restored by 23-11-77 and balance by 30-11-77. Srirangam exchange was restored on 17-11-77. Trunk communication to Nagapattinam was restored on 19-11-77. This restoration was on temporary basis. Permanent restoration is in progress.

Andhra Pradesh : Out of 22238 telephones which went out of order 21780 have been restored. 164 exchanges including 34 trunk centres have been restored leaving only three rural exchanges to be recommissioned yet. The trunk lines of these three SAXs have been temporarily terminated as Long Distance Public Call Offices (PCOs). The restoration so far is on a temporary basis. Permanent restoration of trunk lines is in progress.

Kerala : Damage to wireless station at Kalpeni has already been repaired temporarily.

Amount of P. F. Family Pension and Damages outstanding Against M/s. Swadeshi Cotton Mill, Kanpur

*523. SHRI KALYAN JAIN : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of provident fund, family pension and damages which are pending against M/s. Swadeshi Cotton Mill, Kanpur;

(b) whether in spite of such a huge arrears and chronic defaults, all legal action proposed to be taken and pending in the court were withdrawn without obtaining any bank guarantee on certain political recommendations; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take against the Central Provident Fund Commissioner who is actively involved in many similar cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (Dr. RAM KIRPAL SINHA): (a) and (b). The Employees' Provident Fund Authorities have intimated as follows:—

(a) The amounts of Provident Fund, Family Pension Fund, Insurance Fund contributions and Administrative Charges due from M/s. Swadeshi Cotton Mill Ltd., Kanpur are as under:—

Month	Provident Fund	Family Pension	Employees Administrative Charges		
			Employees Deposit-Linked Insurance contributions.	Employees Provident Fund	Employees Deposit-Linked Insurance
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
August, 77	431887.50	7168.50	Nil.	10153.35	Nil
September 77	419411.00	6766.00	13800.00	9853.65	2800.00
October 77	419411.00	6766.00	13800.00	9853.65	2800.00
November 77	419411.00	6766.00	13800.00	9853.65	2800.00
TOTAL	1690120.00	27466.50	41400.30	39714.30	7400.00

(The dues for the months of October and November, 1977 have been calculated on provisional basis as the Mill has not submitted the relevant Returns.)

A sum of about Rs. 11.53 lakhs on account of damages is outstanding for late payments made for certain months between May, 1970 and July, 1976.

(b) The Provident Fund contributions have been duly paid by the Mills upto July, 1977. For the non-payment of the Provident Fund and Family Pension dues for the months of August and September, 1977, the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Uttar Pradesh has written to the Collector to recover Rs. 10,10,284.00 as arrears of land revenue and notice under section 7A of the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act has been issued to the establishment for determining the Provident Fund dues for the months of October and November, 1977. Whereafter of the amount is not paid by them, the Collector will be asked to recover those dues as arrears of land revenue. Action to launch prosecutions has been initiated. It is not proposed to withdraw any of the pending or proposed legal actions. In the past where prosecutions were filed and withdrawn, the Provident Fund arrears of those cases stand paid in full.

(c) Does not arise.

Elimination of Political Elements from Trade Union Leadership

*524. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that the current wave of labour unrest is mainly due to inter-union rivalries;

(b) if so, whether he intends to eliminate political elements from trade union leaderships,

(c) if not, in what other way, does he expect to protect workers from being made victims of politicalised trade union leaders; and

(d) whether he has any plan to legislate in this context to confine trade union leadership only to the worker members?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) Inter-union rivalry may be one of the contributory factors towards the labour unrest.

(b) to (d). The questions relating to the outsiders being office bearers of trade