

बिहार

6. गवर्नमेंट आयुर्वेदिक कालिज, पो० कदमकुआं, पटना ।
7. श्री यतिन्द्र नारायण अष्टांग आयुर्वेदिक कालिज, चम्पानगर, भागलपुर ।
8. अयोध्या शिवकुमारी आयुर्वेदिक कालिज, बेगूसराय, जिला चम्पारन ।

गुजरात

9. सेठ जे० पी० आयुर्वेद महाविद्यालय, श्रीलड सामलदास कालिज, वादवा, भावनगर, (सीराष्ट्र)
10. श्री अखण्डानन्द आयुर्वेद महाविद्यालय, अपोजिट विक्टोरिया गार्डन, भादरा, अहमदाबाद ।

श्री बसन्त साठे : इसको टेबिल पर रख दीजिये ।

श्री राज नारायण : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जब मैं विरोध पक्ष में होता था, तो मैं कहता था कि सरकार उत्तर को छिपाती है, उसको पूरा उत्तर देना चाहिये । मेरी मांग होती थी कि सरकार पूरा उत्तर दे । अब जब मैं सरकारी पक्ष में हूँ और पूरा उत्तर देने लगता हूँ तो विरोध पक्ष सुनने से इंकार करता है ।

श्री ककुत्त साठे : आप उत्तर को पुस्तिका के रूप में देना चाहते हैं—इससे कठिनाई होती है ।

श्री राज नारायण : तब मैं इतना ही बता देना चाहता हूँ कि इसी तरह से आयुर्वेद के और भी सरकारी औषधालय हैं ।

Setting up of Committee of Members of Parliament for Calcutta Telephones

*566. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has considered the proposal for setting up of small Committee of the Members of Parliament to go into the grievances of Calcutta Telephone subscribers and suggest measures for improvement of the functioning of Calcutta Telephone; and

(b) if so, the action taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA): (a) and (b). The proposal has been examined. The grievances of telephone subscribers are being looked into and attended to by Calcutta Telephone Administration on a continuing basis. The Telephone Advisory Committee which discusses various grievances of telephone subscribers and advises the Department on improvement of local and trunk services is shortly to be re-constituted for Calcutta. This Committee will have on it Members of Parliament, Members of Legislative Assembly and representatives of other civic and local organisations. A Committee of Senior Experts has been constituted to go into such aspects as organisational structure, procedures of work, system of forecasting and perspective planning necessary for efficient functioning of the four metropolitan Telephone Districts. In view of these, it is considered that a special Parliamentary Committee for going into the grievances of telephone subscribers of Calcutta Telephones is not necessary.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Sir, I am again to remind our hon. Minister of the Janata Party that although they are known as Janata Ministers, still I find that the 30 years ghost of Congress mentality is still not only haunting them, but also dominating their mind.

I had raised the same question previously.

AN HON. MEMBER: How many times?

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Many times. I put the same type of question. The continuing basis of examination has been going on. And when the continuing basis of examination is going on, the misery is continuing for the subscriber. His telephone is continuing, then the wrong connection to his telephone is continuing, no reply to his telephone calls is continuing and the miseries of the subscribers of the Calcutta telephones are continuing. If a real survey is made about the functioning of the Calcutta telephones, I think the House will be surprised and shocked to see for how much time the telephones remain in operation and for how many hours and how many days the telephones remain dead. If you just make a survey, you will be astonished to see how the telephone subscribers in Calcutta are suffering.

Now, the hon. Minister has given a stereotyped reply like the one given by the Congress earlier in big and high sounding terms like organisational structure, procedures of work, system of forecasting etc. It is said that an Expert Committee has been appointed. This Expert Committee is not the one which is appointed for the first time. In the last two Lok Sabha also this type of Expert Committee had been appointed. I had the misfortune to remain as a Member of the Telephone Advisory Committee for three successive terms. I know the functioning of this Committee, I know the functioning of this Telephone Advisory Committee. Some 40 or 45 members are there. For one hour from the start of its meeting, there is a pandemonium prevailing there. There, they talk about how many members will be able to get sanction for specialized categories of telephones. That is the only function. Never are fundamental and basis problems discussed there.

SHRI S. KUNDU: I request Mr. Samar Guha through you Sir, to be kind to others whose questions are there to be answered after him.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I appreciate it. I am one of the victims—there are thousands of them—among the Calcutta telephone subscribers. The expert committee is not going to do anything. I want to know whether Government of India will re-examine the question, because the appointment of a parliamentary committee has a different meaning. Its influence will have an effect on the officials there, as well as on the public. Will the assurance given by the earlier Communications Minister, Mr. Fernandes that the matter will be considered thoroughly, be fulfilled, and the question of instituting a parliamentary committee will be considered again—to go into this plaguing disease that is continuing for years in the Calcutta Telephones?

श्री बृजलाल वर्मा : पार्लियामेंटरी कमेटी बनाने का अभी कोई निश्चय नहीं किया गया है। परन्तु जो आप खराबियां बता रहे हैं, उनके बारे में मैं आपको बताता हूँ। वहाँ के जो केबल्स में खराबियां आ गयी हैं, उन खराबियों को दुरुस्त करने के लिए लगभग दो साल के अन्दर तीन हजार किलोमीटर केबलों की दुरुस्ती की हम कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं।

श्री समर गुह : आपने क्या केबल लगाये हैं, जरा वहाँ जाकर देखिए। हम जानते हैं Calcutta is no longer the industrial capital of eastern India, because of the horrible conditions of the telephones. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you go on like this, he will take more time.

श्री बृजलाल वर्मा : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जो सदस्य महोदय ने कहा यह काफी हद तक सत्य है कि वहाँ खराबियां हैं। परन्तु उनको

ठीक करने के लिए कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं। उन खराबियों को दूर करने के वास्ते ही दो वर्ष के अन्दर तीन हजार किलो मीटर इम्प्रूव्ड वैरायटी के केबल्स हम वहां लगाने जा रहे हैं। इस साल लगभग डेढ़ हजार किलो मीटर लम्बे केबल को दुरुस्त व इम्प्रूव्ड वैरायटी लगवाने का कार्य पूरा हो जाएगा। जो खराबियां वहां पर हैं उनको दुरुस्त करने के लिए यह सब कुछ नये ढंग से किया जा रहा है।

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I want to know from the hon. Minister: (a) the number of telephone connections at present, i.e. these given to the subscribers in Bombay, Delhi and Calcutta, as also the new telephone lines which are to be connected and given to the subscribers during 1977-78; and (b) whether it is a fact that in the rural areas, in the expansion programmes of the telephones, exorbitant charges are being levied by the government.

श्री बृजलाल वर्मा : कलकत्ता के सम्बन्ध में मैं कह सकता हूँ कि इस साल चालीस हजार टेलीफोन कनेक्शन नए वहां दिए जाएंगे।

श्री समर गुह : दिल्ली में ?

श्री बृजलाल वर्मा : उसका नोटिस देंगे तो वह भी बता दूंगा।

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: The Minister has stated that during the last two years 3,000 lines have been laid in the Calcutta area. Exchange numbers 67, 64, 618, 44, 24 and 47 are always out of order. But the peculiarity is this that at the end of the month the Telephone Department sends bills for regular charges as if these telephone exchanges were working throughout the month. May I know whether the Government have any information regarding this? What is the maintenance procedure of these exchanges and telephone lines in the Calcutta area?

श्री बृज लाल वर्मा : पहली जुलाई को चौदह सौ टेलीफोन खराब थे। उनमें से सात सौ ठीक कर दिए गए हैं। वहां पर 24 घंटे काम किया जा रहा है। जल्दी ही इस समय जो खराबियां हैं उनको दूर कर दिया जाएगा।

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: I have gone to the Telephone Bhavan to find out the procedure for maintenance. The man in charge was saying that it is only because of the maintenance procedure and maintenance arrangement that the Calcutta telephones is suffering so much, but the Centre is not looking into the matter. That is their complaint.

श्री बृजलाल वर्मा : केबलज को दुरुस्त करने के लिए प्रेशराइजेशन सिस्टम शुरू किया जा रहा है। जिस जगह छेद हो जाता है गड्ढे खोदने के कारण उसको दुरुस्त करने के लिए नये जल्दी ही कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं और उपाय अपनाए जा रहे हैं। कैसे मालूम पड़े कहां पर छेद हुआ है एक नया इंस्ट्रूमेंट लगाया गया है ताकि पता चल जाए कि कहां खराबी है और उसको दुरुस्त करने के लिए हर प्रकार से कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं।

PROF. DILIP CHAKRAVARTY: The Minister in charge of the Department gives some plans for doing certain things in the course of the next two years. Is it the intention that the subscribers of the Calcutta telephones will be waiting for these two years? Here I would like to mention my personal experience. I submitted my nomination on the 16th February and the voting was on the 16th March. For 20 days during this period my telephone was out of order. Even though I wrote so many letters to the General Manager, Calcutta Telephones, I received a reply only after the completion of the third week. Then, I will narrate another interesting experience. The Delhi telephones seems to be no better. Day before yesterday I tried to contact Shri George Fernandes, who was the Minister in charge of this

Department till the other day. Both his residential telephones were out of order. Even telephone No. 198 kept me waiting for more than half an hour to have it recorded that these telephones were out of order. So, the Delhi telephones also seem to be in a bad condition. Is the Minister aware of it?

श्री बृजलाल वर्मा : मैं जानता हूँ कि यहां पर भी खराबियां हैं और कलकत्ता की तो खराब हालत है। इसको दुरुस्त करने के लिए जल्दी कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं। सिस्टम में बहुत सी जो खराबियां आ गई हैं उनको दुरुस्त करने के लिए एक एक्सपर्ट कमेटी बनाई गई है।

श्री सोमजीभाई डामोर : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, क्या इण्डस्ट्रीज डिपार्टमेंट में अनफ़िट हुए कम्युनिकेशन्स मन्त्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि सारे हिन्दुस्तान में टेलीफ़ोन में शिकायतें हैं... (ब्यवधान) सारे देश में जो शिकायतें हैं उनके लिये कोई ऐसी व्यवस्था की जाएगी कि शिकायतें कम हों, जैसे आपने कहा कि 14 हजार में से 700 शिकायतें ठीक हुई हैं। तो सारे देश की जो टेलीफ़ोन से सम्बन्धित शिकायतें हैं उनको ठीक करने के लिये कोई उचित व्यवस्था है कि नहीं ?

श्री बृजलाल वर्मा : सारी शिकायतों के लिये, इनको दुरुस्त करने के लिये एक्सपर्ट कमेटी बैठी हुई है जिसमें सारे देश के जितने भी लोग हैं इसके जानकार उनकी एक कमेटी बनाई गई है और सारे देश में जो खराबियां हैं उनको कैसे दुरुस्त किया जाए इसकी रिपोर्ट लगभग 2 महीने के अन्दर वह कमेटी प्रस्तुत करेगी।

SHRI ASOKE KRISHNA DUTT: The hon. Minister stated that these problems can be dealt with by the Telephone Advisory Committee. Like my hon. friend, Shri Samar Guha, I was

a Member of this Committee for a very long time. This Committee merely decides about the priority amongst the pending applications, nothing more than that. The problems of the Calcutta telephones are very much more acute because for over ten years there has been an annual backlog of over 100,000 telephones. Besides, there are certain new cross bar exchanges which have been introduced there and when you try to get a cross bar exchange number from a traditional number, the answer that you get is that the exchange is out of order. So, will the hon. Minister appoint a small parliamentary committee to look into these chronic problems?

श्री बृजलाल वर्मा : मैंने आपको बताया है कि एक्सपर्ट कमेटी सारी खराबियों को दूर करने के बारे में विचार करने के लिये बैठी हुई है जो दो महीने में रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत करेगी, इसलिये पालियामेंटरी कमेटी बनाने का अभी विचार नहीं है। परन्तु इसके बाद भी अगर दुरुस्ती नहीं होगी तो विचार करेंगे कि पालियामेंटरी कमेटी उस पर विचार करे या न करे।

Expansion of Public Sector Steel Plants

*567. DR. HENRY AUSTIN:
SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a final decision to expand the existing integrated public sector steel plants; and

(b) if so, the salient features in regard to capacity and expenditure involved?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Expansion of existing public sector steel plants are being undertaken in a