

की किस सरकार के जाकरा  
काहवा है कि इन 17 गवर्नरों में से धीरे 4  
केप्टेनेन्ट गवर्नरों में से कोई हरिजन  
जाई है या नहीं है। अगर नहीं है तो क्यों  
नहीं है ?

**Shri Y. B. Chavan:** There is no Harijan member, but I think that in the case of the high office of Governors, you cannot think in terms of reservation. Certainly there is nothing wrong in expecting a Harijan to become a Governor.

**Shri Tenneti Viswanatham:** Referring to the consultation, the Minister has said that there is previous consultation with Chief Ministers. In how many cases were Governors thrust upon the States in spite of the advice of the Chief Ministers? Were there such cases?

**Mr. Speaker:** He has already answered that during his period he has not done it, there is not even one case. He has said this in reply to another question.

की सरकार लिहू : क्या सरकार बतला सकती है कि जहाँ पर कांग्रेसी मंत्रिमंडल कायम है वहाँ के लिये उसने कोई ऐसा विधान बनाया है कि वहाँ पर गैर-कांग्रेसी गवर्नर बनावे जायें ?

**Shri Y. B. Chavan:** This is one of the suggestions that can always be considered.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next Question.

**Shri Jyotirmoy Basu:** On a point of information.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next Question. Mr. Patodia.

#### **Indo-Pak. Tele-Communications Service**

- \*23. **Shri D. N. Patodia:**  
**Shri D. C. Sharma:**  
**Shri M. Kampani:**  
**Shri Ramschandra Veerappa:**  
**Shri Ebrahim Sulaiman gani:**  
**Shri N. K. Sanghi:**  
**Shri Sukam Chand Kachwal:**  
**Shri Onkar Singh:**  
**Shri Y. A. Prasad:**  
**Shri B. Barua:**

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether tele-communication links between India and Pakistan have since been established;

(b) if so, the brief resume of their working at present; and

(c) if not, the efforts made to establish the same at an early date?

The Minister of State in the Departments of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri L. K. Gujral):  
(a) to (c). The telecommunication links between India and Pakistan were restored partially in February, 1966. The circuits have, however, not been working satisfactorily mainly due to lack of coordination and attention from Pakistan authorities.

In response to Government of India's proposal for discussions on various subjects, including telecommunications to normalise relations between India and Pakistan as provided in the Tashkent Declaration, the Government of Pakistan have expressed the desire to have talks for normalisation of tele-communication facilities. We have welcomed this trend and are pursuing through diplomatic channels the possibility of having the scope of the talks widened, so as to include other closely related matters. We have also offered to receive in Delhi a team of Pakistan officials for talks on questions that either side may

bring up. The final reply of the Government of Pakistan is still awaited, but the response so far has not been very encouraging.

**Shri D. N. Patodia:** Since Indian cargo is still held up in Pakistan waters, in spite of the fact that Pakistan cargo was released by the Indian authorities unilaterally why should this not be a pre-condition that before we talk about resumption of telecommunications, the Government of Pakistan must release the Indian cargo held in Pakistan waters? Would there be any sense in always giving facilities to Pakistan without insisting on reciprocal facilities?

**Shri I. K. Gujral:** The Government of India's attitude has been made clear here from time to time about our relationship with Pakistan. The main point is not that we are putting forward any pre-conditions. We are anxious that in the Tashkent spirits, understanding should prevail between these two countries, and, therefore, we have laid down no pre-condition for talks, and we are willing to talk to resolve all outstanding issues.

**Shri Nath Pai:** What is the Tashkent spirit? There is no such spirit now. You may call it the Tashkent ghost.

**Shri I. K. Gujral:** We are not murdering it.

**Shri Nath Pai:** The spirit is dead; only the ghost remains.

**Shri Hem Barua:** He is trying to take shelter under the Tashkent spirit. But the Tashkent spirit is dead.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know whether these telecommunication links were working before the hostilities between India and Pakistan started and where they are proposed to be started now, who is going to bear the expenses involved in the setting up of these telecommunication centres, whether the expenses will be borne by both India and Pakistan, and if so, in what ratio?

**Shri I. K. Gujral:** Before the hostilities, we had three routes for telecommunication links between India and Pakistan, namely Delhi-Lahore, Calcutta-Dacca and Jodhpur-Karachi. In February, 1966, two of these routes, namely New Delhi-Lahore and Calcutta-Dacca were restored, but the Jodhpur-Karachi one has not been restored in spite of various reminders and efforts.

So far as the revenue part of it is concerned, different formulae were evolved in 1948 for the sharing of the telegrams as well as the telephone bills revenues and also the postage revenues. If the hon. Member so wishes, I can give details. But I can only state here this thing in which the hon. Member would be interested, namely that according to the formulae for telephone and telegram revenues, the Pakistan authorities owed to India about Rs. 48 lakhs on these two accounts and about Rs. 1 crore on account of postal outstandings that Pakistan should reimburse. Unfortunately, in spite of our various reminders we have not been able to get that money.

**Shri D. N. Patodia:** The hon. Minister has told us that in the spirits of the Tashkent agreement we are giving all facilities to Pakistan. But I want to ask, why should the grant of these facilities be always unilateral. Are we not entitled to impose a pre-condition on Pakistan to do likewise to us? When we have released Pakistan cargo, is it not necessary for them to release Indian cargo before any other topic is discussed?

**Shri I. K. Gujral:** I am entirely in agreement with the hon. Member that Pakistan is absolutely not justified in withholding our cargo. But he will also understand that as a matter of policy we are not asking for any pre-conditions. Now the setting up of tele-communications is, I feel, a way to create understanding and to talk to each other. If we do not have postal arrangements and if we do not have telecommunications,

obviously we will not be able to talk to each other also.

I can assure the hon. Member that the Government of India are not obvious of the withholding of cargo by the Pakistan authorities and we hope that if Pakistan ever agrees to come to the table, we will be able to raise this issue as well.

**Shri R. Barse:** In pursuance of the policy of having better relations with our neighbours and in view of the Tashkent agreement, should we not proceed to normalise relations with Pakistan without waiting for exchange of communication links?

**Shri I. K. Gujral:** The hon. Member will agree with me that ever since the cessation of hostilities, the Government of India have left no stone unturned to create understanding between our two countries. We are going to the farthest extent to see that India and Pakistan live as peaceful and good neighbours and friends. As regards tele-communications also, it is not a question of being unilateral. For instance, our tele-communication channels up to the border are working very effectively and very efficiently. But calls generally do not get there. Therefore, we remind them to improve the tele-communications. Unfortunately, the response to us is not good. We have also fixed meetings and tried to check up the apparatus. We have asked them to agree to hold joint meetings. The Director General here has been writing to his opposite number in Pakistan almost every month to agree to a meeting at that level which can improve the tele-communications. But unfortunately, there has been no response.

#### Wealth of persons holding Public Offices

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34. **Shri A. B. Vajpayee:**  
**Shri N. S. Sharma:**  
**Shri Shri Gopal Saboo:**

**Shri Brij Bhushan Lal:**  
**Shri Sharda Nand:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a high-powered commission to inquire into the wealth of all those who held public offices during the last 20 years;

(b) whether any suggestions to this effect have been received by Government;

(c) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(d) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Y. B. Chavan):** (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Such an inquiry is not called for, would involved a great deal of fruitless work, and would not be in the public interest.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: क्या इस प्रकार का आयोग नियुक्त न करने का एक कारण यह भी है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार को डर है कि यदि ऐसा आयोग बना तो बहुत से व्यक्तियों के मामले उस आयोग के सामने आयेंगे जिन्होंने पिछले बीस सालों में अपार सम्पत्ति इकट्ठा की है और क्योंकि वे व्यक्ति कांग्रेस पार्टी से सम्बन्धित हैं इसलिये सरकार ऐसा आयोग बनाना नहीं चाहती है ?

**Shri Y. B. Chavan:** No, it has nothing to do with it. If there are any specific allegations against anybody and if a *prima facie* case is made out against some person, inquiries will be made. But to make some sort of very blanket proposition of inquiries against all people who held public office in the last twenty years is something like talking without knowing what one is talking about.