

Government to install a modern telephone exchange with a capacity of 1400 lines in view of the industrial position of Chikaldhana.

Sir, similarly, I demand that 30 channels should be provided to Valooz and Jaikvadi from the 120 channels Microwave digital System which is being installed between Aurangabad and Beed because the M.I.D.C. Industrial area of Valooz and Jaikvadi is very important.

*[English]*

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, May I just invite the attention of the Government through you and also through the House to a new phenomenon now being experienced by our passengers at the Santa Cruz Airport. Many of the passengers are being robbed of their valuables by the Security personnel and those who are coming from the Gulf countries have been complaining that their valuables are robbed of by the Security Staff while their luggage is being processed through X-ray. The luggage is x-rayed at the Santa Cruz.

On the 30th of November there was an incident for which myself and another hon. Member of this House, Mr. K. Muralee Dharan are witnesses. We were on board the flight from Bombay to Calicut. And one passenger came on board he was coming from Saudi Arabia - and complained that some of his money had been taken away by the Security staff while his luggage was being x-rayed. The Commander of that aircraft, Capt. Manchanda came down and took him to the security Staff. And he was returned 100, Saudi riyals which had been taken away from him by the Security Staff. This is now continuing and increasing. I would urge the Government to stop forthwith this harassment of the bonafide passengers and also take action against the delinquent officers.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to invite the attention of the House to a very important issue. As I have also given a notice for it formed. The prices of all the essential commodities are continuously increasing. During the budget session, the Finance Minister had assured the whole nation that the prices of essential commodities will decline or start declining after the month of October. But according to the figures available here, inflation has increased 7 per cent between October and November and the prices of all the essential commodities have increased by 4 per cent. During the last six months prices of life saving drugs have increased by 2.5 times to 3 times. The prices of text books and exercise books for children have increased nearly by 1.5 times during the last six months.

Sir, the Government is inefficient, prices of essential commodities are continuous on the rise. Despite the fact that the Kharif crops have reached the market, the prices of foodgrains are constantly increasing. The Public Distribution System of the Government has virtually collapsed. The Government has completely failed to provide essential items to the people. I, therefore, would like that a discussion should be held in the House regarding the availability of essential commodities to the people and the price rise. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a discussion is going on over such an important issue and the entire House is empty. Please call them inside the House. As assurance was given to bring down the prices of commodities within hundred days. It should be discussed in the House. Such an important issue is being discussed here, but Members belonging to the treasury benches are not present at all. I request you to call them inside. *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly take your seats. During Zero Hour, as soon as an hon. Member raises a matter, the Government will take notice of it; but you cannot expect the Government to immediately respond to it.

(*Interruptions*)

13.00 hrs

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: My appeal to you is, I am sure that most of the people who are on this side were also on the other side earlier and that we cannot forget. And those who are here on this side, they may go to the other side later. Therefore, the system and custom which we have followed should be continued for all times to come.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: BY that time they will destory the system.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Secondly, in Zero Hour, most of the people who have raised their hands are anxious to speak. The time at our disposal is also very short. Many people must have been disappointed. As far as possible, I have made my humble effort to give a chance to everybody. Such of those people who could not be heard today, they may have a fair chance tomorrow and other friends who have spoken today, they may accomodate their friends tomorrow to have a chance. This accommodation is absolutely essential. I am sorry that some of our hon. Members had no occasion to speak. I wanted to call their names. But their voice is very feeble while some people are bestowed with

excellent voice and their voice is very much heard. Therefore, I request you to cooperate in this respect. Shri Manoranjan Bhakta will be the last speaker now.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA(Andaman & Nicobar Islands): Sir, while I come to my point, I would like to support Shri Somnath Chatterjee. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is no need for agitation. Shri Jaswant Singh had spoken, Shri Advani had spoken and Shri Anna Joshi had spoken. You also had your own share.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): The same person is given a chance every day.

MR. DEPUTY-SPAKER: It is only for this purpose that I request that such of those people who had no occasion to speak, should be accommodated tomorrow by these people who had a chance today. Nobody should be denied a chance.

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA(Tamluk): We are not getting a chance though we are giving notices.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, Shri Manorajan Bhakta will be the last speaker.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Before I go to the point I have given notice of, I support Shri Somnath Chatterjee that the price situation in the country is very bad and that the prices of essential commodities are increasing day by day; but at the same time