come to the House and to lay on the Table of the House a statement on the state of the inquiry so that we can get ail the facts and on this procedure there will be a proper discussion.

श्री एस.एस.अहलुवालिया(बिहार): महोदया,में मांग करता हूं सदन के माध्यम से कि सरकार इस पूरे मुद्दे पर एक व्हाइट-पेपर प्लेस करे और व्हाइट पेपर के माध्यम से हम जान सकें और हम इस सदन के अंदर उस पर बहस कर सकें । ....(व्यवधान)....इसी मुद्दे पर एक व्हाइट-पेपर प्लेस किया जाए जिसमें बताया जाए कि एस.आई.टी.ही चार्जशीट कब फाइल हुई थी और एस.आई.टी.के केस पर जो एल.टी.टी.ई.के लोग मद्रास में बंद हैं.उन पर क्या कार्रवाई की जा रही हैं?

महोदया,वर्मा कमीशन की रिपोर्ट प्लेस होने के बाद इस सदन मेंबहुत बार बहस हुई हैं और उसमें जिन अफसरों को इंडिक्ट किया गया हैं,उनके खिलाफ क्या कार्रवाई की गई हैं और उन पर क्या-क्या ऐक्शन लिए गए हैं और उसके साथ कनेक्टेड जो-जो लोग थे,जहां-जहां थे,उन पर क्या-क्या कानूनी कार्रवाई की गई हैं ?

महोदया, उसके बाद जैन कमीशन का सात बार ऐक्सटेंशन हो गया हैं । जैन कमीशन कब तक एक टाइम बाउंड प्रोग्राम बना कर बताएगा कि वे अपनी रिपोर्ट कब तक पेश कर सकेंगे और उस पर एक व्हाइट पेपर इस सदन में पेश करे जिससे हम लोग जान सकें । ऐसा न हो कि जिस तरह से हमारे नेताजी सुभाषचन्द्र बोस की हत्या हुई या वे मारे गए ऐक्सीडेंट में या वे जिंदा हैं,आज तक हिंदुस्तान के लोग नहीं जान सकें । इसी तरह ऐसा न हो कि राजीव गांधी की हत्या किसने की,कहां की....(व्यवधान)...हमारे हिंदूस्तान के लोगों को यह हत्या किसने करवाई,इसका पता न लग सके । ऐसा न हो कि हमारे लोग ऐसे ही बैठे रह जाएं और अगर कोई अधिकारी ये सारे कागज़ात जैन कमीशन को नहीं दे रहे हैं तो वे कौन जिम्मेदार और गैर-जिम्मेदार लोग हैं जो ये कागज़ नहीं पहुंचा रहे हैं या विधि-व्यवस्था में कोई अड़चन हैं जिसके कारण ये काम रूका हआ हैं,वह सदन को बताने की कृपा करें।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा): कृपया करके आप बैठ जाइये। ढाई बजे से प्राइवेट मैम्बर्स रेजोलूशन का समय तय किया हुआ हैं....

श्री ईश दत्त यादवः इसका समय बढ़ा दिया जाए । (व्यवधान)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा): अब हम प्राइवेट मैम्बर्स रेजालूशन ले लेते हैं उसके बाद ....(व्यवधान)... SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashtra) Madam, the time for the Private Members' Business will have to be two and a half hours. There is no doubt about it. But that can start after this is over. That time cannot be curtailed, but that can start after this is over.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: What about Special mentions?

(Interruptions)

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा**): वह बाद में लेंगे।

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Rajasthan): Madam, there are two types of grievances. One grievance is with regard to the Jain Commission. Some clarifications are to be sought, and it can start after 5 O'clock. There are Members who want to raise some Speical Mentions. They too have a grievance, and the Deputy Chairperson has assured the House that they will be taken up after 5 o'clock.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा): पांच बजे शार्ट ड्युरेशन डिस्कशन लिस्टेड हैं ....(व्यवधान)

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Naturally, after the Private Members' Business is over, then at 5 o'clock, there is a Short Duration Discussion, and thereafter the Speical Mentions should be taken up.

संसदीय कार्य राज्य मंत्री (श्री मतंग सिंह): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया,जो मेरे साथी सांसदों ने राजीव जी के असेसिनेशन का मुद्दा उठाया हैं तो मैं, प्राइवेट मैम्बर्स बिजनेस के बाद,चिदम्बरम साहब से आग्रह करूंगा कि वह सरकार की तरफ से स्टेटमेंट दें।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा): अब हम प्राइवेट मैम्बर्स रेजोलूशन जो लिस्टेड हैं उसे ले रहे हैं। (व्यवधान)

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Madam Vice-Chairman, there is an important Short Duration Discussion relating to the LIC also.

(Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): Now, we take up the Private Member's Resolution Shri Nilotpal Basu.

# RESOLUTION RE. NEW TELECOM POLICY

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU (WEST BENGAL): Madam, I beg to move:

That this House resolves that the operative aspects of the New Telecom Policy and the subsequent measures initiated by the Government affecting the basic telecom services are detrimental to the interests of the subscribers, the people and the country and urges upon Government to reverse the present direction.

Madam, it is after a very difficult and prolonged process that this august House is having an opportunity to discuss the whole gamut of changes that has overtaken the telecom sector of the country. It is rather unfortunate that the discussion that is taking place in the House on the telecom sector has to be discussed as part of a Private Member's Resolution.

Madam, the National Telecom Policy was tabled in this House more than a year back, on the 12th of May, 1994.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashtra): Madam, if you permit me, before that, I would like to suggest that those who could not speak on the Jain Commission should be given a chance first to seek clarifications on the statement of Mr. Chidambaram. Those names which are pending should be allowed to seek clarifications when Mr. Chidambaram makes his statement. If that is done, Madam, I have no objection.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): That will be done.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: That is our demand also.

SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: It should be considered.

### (Interruptions)

SHRI JAGESH DESAI : Madam, kindly give your ruling so that we can understand it. Otherwise, somebody would come and we do not know that will happen. (*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): If you want to seek clarifications, you are free to do it. Kindly sit donw now. Mr. Basu, please continue. *Interruptions*)

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Madam, I was saying that it was rather unfortunate that this House had the opportunity to discuss this policy and some of the important facets of this policy, In the form of a Private Member's Resolution. About a year back, when this policy was tabled in the House, you will remember, it was so done under very, very controversial circumstanmees. In fact, there was a severe reprimand from the Chair to the Minister because proper order was not maintained in terms of tabling the policy. Subsequent to that, for the past, now, one year, at least, there has not been a single occasion when there was a comprehensive discussion, excepting for, may be, one or two occasions which we got here. where some little bits of the policy had been discussed in the House. Therefore, never was there a comprehensive discussion o nthe Naitonal Telecom Policy.

I think this speaks volumes for the way we conduct our business! it does not speak very well about the way in which the Government is trying to push the reforms in the country. Madam, it is a well-known fact, today, that, all over the world, telecom is one sector which has undergone one of the most profound changes on the basis and, as an aPirmath, of the scientific and technological revolution.

Madam, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that communication, now, is considered as the second line of security, wherein very basic and fundamental changes are being brought about in the structure of ownership of the basic telecom services in the country. It is a shame that such an important policy framework, which would affect our future generations, which would affect the very survival, the very existence, of this country, has not been discussed in Parliament. Not only that, Madam. I have been given to understand that the Standing Committee of Parliament on Communication, and the Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Communications have not had the opportunity to discuss or debate this policy framework.

As I said, several profound changes are being brought about. Madam, I would like to draw your attention and, through you, that of the House, to the fact that several public interest petitions are pending before the hon. Supreme Court, questioning many of the significant aspects of this policy framework.

Repeatedly I would like to underline the fact that it is a shameful situation that all this is taking place behind the back of Parliament.

Parliament has not been able to discuss and debate this issue. This is unthinkable for a nation which claims itself to be the biggest democracy on the threshold of the 21 st century.

What is the situation in the basic Telecom sector? We know that the health of our basic Telecom services is not so commendable There, is also absolutely no disagreement about the need for reforms and about the need for improvement of the baisc Telecom services in the country. We know that there is large room for improvement so far as customer interface of the Telecom Department is concerned, so far as improvement of the connectivity of calls is concerned and so many other aspects of the daily functioning of the Telecom sector. But the point is, how do we go about it?

Now, the basic national policy document with which the Government came before Parliament has outlined five objectives as the objectives of the National Telecom Policy, and I don't believe there is any disagreement in this Mouse over these objectives. These objectives a.e unexceptional. But the difficulty arose that in laying down these objectives, certain calculations are being made. What are the calcutations? If you allow me, Madam, I would like to quote the first two objectives of the National Telecom Policy. The first objective was, "The focus of the Telecom Policy shall be telecommunication for all and telecommunication within the reach of all." This means ensuring the availability of telephone on demand as early as possible. Another objective is "to achieve universal service covering all villages as early as possible." What is meant by the expression "universal service" is the provision of access for all people for certain basic telecom services at affordable and reasonable prices. So, these were the two specific targets which were laid down in the National Telecom Policy document-that we will provide telephone on demand by 31st March 1997, and all villages will have connectivity in the form of at least oen village PCO by 31st March 1997

What did the Government say? The Government said, in terms of the policy document, all the Planning Commission estimates that were there for the Eighth Plan, of providing 75 lakh direct exchange lines in the urban areas and 3,20,062 village telephones

for considerably increasing the reach of the village telephone network, would require a total of Rs. 41,116 crores. The Government was not in a position to mobilize all these resources. For this target alone, the Government was facing a resource deficit of Rs. 7,500 crores.

So, to reach this target of providing telephone on demand and telephone connection to each village, the Enghth Plan estimate was revised. The projection of the Government came that over and above the Eighth PU: estimate there was need for 25 lakh new telephone connections in the urban areas and 2,17,192 telephone connections for the villages for universal coverage. For this, the Government projected again that an amount of Rs. 15,750 crores, crores would be needed. So, Rs. 7,500 crores plus Rs. 15,750 crores, totally Rs. 23,000 crores would be the resource requirement to meet the objectives of the National Telecom Policy. This was the submission of the Government before Parliament. Not only did the Government submit this to Parliament, but it has gone with the same figures in the Special Leave Petition No. 13,585/95 filed in the Supreme Court. These are the figures that the Government maintains.

Now, what is the actual position? Madam, I want to quote figures basically from the Annual Report of the Department of Telecommunications which we have got. In the last four years of the Eighth Plan period, so far as direct exchange lines are concerned, already 59,85,400 telephones have been installed. Of course, the figure for 1995-96, which is Rs. 20 lakhs, is a provisional figure. Therefore, for meeting the originally planned target, 15,15,000 telephones are yet to be commissioned, for which only the last year, that is, 1996-97 is left with us. Given the pace of work, given the kind of resources available with the Government and given the kind of commissioning of lines that has taken place in the last four years, it is very clear that not only will the DOT fulfill the target of the Eighth Plan but it will, in fact, create a surplus in terms of exceeding the target that was placed for the Eighth Plan. I think, a surplus of 5 lakhs to 10 lakhs over the original Eighth Plan would be intelligent guess.

So far as village telephones are concerned, in the last four years.... मंत्री थोड़ा मेहरबानी करने से बेहतर होगा।

19-525 GIPMR97

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: I am listening.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: So, for the year 1995-96, that Is again a provisional figure. For four years, the achievement is 2,13,073. That means, for reaching the target of the Eighth Plan, we would need 1,07,000 village telephones.

There is no doubt that the DOT can fill this gap of 2,13,073 by the 31st of March, 1997 from its own resources.

The resource gap of Rs. 7,500 crores which the Government was pointing was, was actually non-existent. So, to that extent, the figures that the Government has placed before Parliament are totally unfounded. Not only has the Government misled this House, but it has also misled the hon. Supreme Court by rigging the figures.

### 3.00 P.M.

I would prove it more substantially later on to basically justify the kind of changes that they are now unleashing. Therefore, what were the actual resource gaps to meet the revised State Plan targets or the NTP targets? We find that on the Eighth Plan targets, since there is no resource gap, the targets will be taken care of by the DOT itself. At that time the assumption was that out of the total connectivity that was to be provided to reach the objective of the new Telecom Policy, the investent required to be made by the private apparatus would have been Rs. 8,343 crores at 47,000 per direct exchange lines as was pointed out in the NTP Document. With the DOT exceeding its target for the Eighth Plan, the number of direct exchange lines that need to be provided to achieve the target of telephone on demand only about Rs. 10 lakhs on account of the revised targets. With the investment cost of Rs. 47,000 per direct exchange lines, the additional investment required for direct exchange line works out to Rs. 4,700 crores instead of Rs. 11,750 crores, as was mentioned in the NTP document.

Madam, I would like to underline the figures of Rs. 4,700 crores against the proposed Rs. 11,750 crores. Similarly, we can also see that the target for the village telephones has also got slashed substantially. It is not only this that the NTP document has tried to mislead the Parliament and the Supreme Court, the projection was that the telephone demand will

grow at an annual rate of 15 per cent per annum. But what is the actual situation? The Minister must know that it is from this Annual Report that I am quoting. For the last year, the annual rate of growth has been only 9.2 per cent. And by no stretch of imagination the annual rate of growth of the demand...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA): Please conclude.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: I have just started.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA): You have taken about 20 minutes.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Naturally. I am moving the Resolution and I have pointed out time and again that we did not have any opportunity to discuss this policy. There are substantial issues.

THE VICE-CHAIRAN (SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA): I am just reminding you about your time. Please continue.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: The point is that the demand will actually grow at the maximum at an average of 12 per cent and this projection is closer to the Planning Commission figures, which kept the annual rate of growth of telephone demand at 10 per cent. So, the Government will also have to explain why they again inflated the figures for telephone demand. Why did they mislead the House and the Supreme Court? Then on another count also there were rigging in figures. The Government said in the Document that this was around Rs. 47,000 per direct exchange Mne. But, what do we get from the Annual Report? For 1992-

93, the investment of DOT has been Rs. 3902 crores and for MTNL Rs. 7.04 crores. For 1993-

94, the figures are Rs. 4,744 crores for DOT and Rs. 838 crores for MTNL.

For D.S. added in thousands, for DOT 977, for MTNL 266, village telephones added 33,000, total 8,646 crores for DOT and 1,541 for MTNL. D.S. added 1,773 for DOT, for MTNL 453, village telephones added 63,000. So, from this we can work out the investment cost for the network, as a whole, both DOT and MTNL combined works out to Rs. 41,327. I would ask the Minister to check the figures. These are quoted from the Annual Report. So, what is the difference between Rs. 47,000 and Rs. 41,327? It is almost Rs. 6,500/-. So, per

unit cost of telephone, to that extent, the Government has inflated the figures to arrive at the fictitious figures of Rs. 23,000 crores. What is the reply? Why have they done like this? They have done like this only to justify induction of the private sector. Is it really necessary? If we work out the figures, it would be no more than Rs. 4000 crores of deficit for achieving really the objectives of the National Telecom Policy. So far as providing telephone on demand and connectivity to each village are concerned, it is not more than Rs. 4,000/-. The stage in which the private sector investment induction is in is not more than Rs. 3,000/-crores. The foreign investors and other private investors will spend Rs. 3,000/- crores up till 31st March, 1997. So, the country was given to believe that there is a big crisis and the DOT cannot manage the situation on its own and, therefore, the private investment is justified.

Madam, here I would like to make a point very, very clear. So far as I am concerned, I have absolutely no problem with the private sector investment as such. Even I have no problem with foreign investment as such. But the point is whether we can concede ownership of operational control to foreign companies in a sensitive sector like the basic telecom services. The ownership question is antoher very sordid story. I have to say this. How is the Government using this National Telecom Policy document as a basis in terms of the three other documents that they have moved, first the guidelines to the basic tender subsequently documents, the tender documents and thirdly, the clarifications which they have given to different potential licencees on the 27th May, 1995. They have violated the spirit of the National Telecom Policy. Why I am saying this is if you go through the National Telecom Policy document, you will see everywhere it has been mentioned that we want private sector investment to supplement the efforts of the DOT. Nowhere are we talking about putting the DOT in competition with the private entity. Throughout the document, the thrust is on how we can attract private investment to supplement the efforts of the DOT so that the so-called alleged resource gap can be overcome. What did they do? Mr. Narasimha Rao, our Prime Minister, visited the United States last year. He showed to the world that our basic Telecom Policy is for taking over

the telephone industry by the foreign telecom companies.

So, he went there with the justification that the Indian Government had decided in terms of a National Telecom Policy. I do not know how a policy can become a National Policy without consultation with Parliament, without consultation with the other political parties, without really trying to evolve a national consensus. But still, he went there with this National Telecom Policy as an invitation to the different multinational corporations. What happened next? In September, 1994, an International Telecom Conference was to be held in Kyoto in Japan. So, our Communication Minister who is not here, unfortunately, went to Kyoto.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Hit predecessor and present successor temporarily is here.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: It it a rather heavy task.

SHRI M.A. BABY: It is an unenviable task.

**श्री महेश्वर सिंह**: जब जब ऐसा मौका आता हैं तो भले आदमी फंस जाते हैं।....(व्यवधान)...

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: When these guidelines were given for the first time, it was announced that for the basic services, up to 49 per cent foreign equity would be allowed. I would like to ask yon, Mr. Minister. Which other country has 49 per cent foreign equity? Interestingly, one of our friends asked a question some time back about foreign equity. It was in this Session only. The reply given by the Minister is that Indonesia has 95 per cent foreign equity; Australia has 49 per cent, what about the other countries? The figures that we have tell us, France has 'zero' foreign equity; in Germany, of course, there is a privatisation move, but not 49 per cent; England has 'zero' foreign equity: and the USA, which we all love to talk about these days, has only 20 per cent foreign equity. So, how come the Indian Government has allowed 49 per cent foreign equity? And what is the situation of the developing countries? China again, is our favourite when we discuss reforms. It has 'zero' foreign equity: Korea has 'zero' foreign equity; Malaysia has 25 per cent foreign equity; the Philippines has 40 per cent foreign equity;

Singapore has 'zero' per cent; and Thailand has 'zero' per cent foreign equity. This is the equity position.

I have a very, very good report which was written by the 'Economist', not by any of our leftist journals. What does the 'economist' (July 22-29) say about China's telcom reforms? It says that all the foreign telecom companies are upset over the manner in which China is handling its telecom setror. What does it say about that? I quote: "For foreign telecom companies desperate for a co-holding with China, the past few years have been frustrating. China's Government has been all too happy to let outsiders improve the country's feeble telecom network, but it has been less ready to concede any claim on the lines and equipment once they are in place. It bans foreign ownership and operation of telephone network. And how much of telephone lines China is commissioning every year? The same report says that 10-15 million lines are added by China every year. It also says why a foreign company should want to be involved in such a capricious market. They do not have ownership, but they are putting in money. Why?

One benefit into China is that there is a big potential market, and finally, they say, critically, the ownership remains with the State. That may not be what foreign investors would choose. But with 1.2 billion potential subscribers at stake, they may be willing to take the risk." Madam, this brings us to the global scenario. So far as the telcom market is concerned, everybody knows Ike power-1 mean, electrical power, not political powerthere is a glut in the global market. There is surplus both in terms of capital and manufacturing capacity with the developed countries because the scenario all over the world is like this that they are now progressing towards the multi-media communication system where the television, where the personal computer and where the basic telephony they are tending t merge. So, the demand for basic telephones and the fixed line network is tapering off.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri Satish Agarwal) in the Chair]

So, they are left behind the surplus which they want to invest. These companies, these investors, need our market as much as we need their capital and it is precisely on this liverage that China has worked out a successful telecom

policy where they are able to induce a large amount of foreign investment, whereas we are going everywhere with a begging bowl and we are trying to prostrate before them by allowing them up to 49 per cent foreign equity. The shameful story of ownership does not stop there. With the guidelines in the basic tender document, what do they say? They say: "There should be maximum 49 per cent foreign equity. But there has to be a minimum of 10 per cent foreign equity". Many Indian companies feel that by this they are denied the opportunity of hiring consultants and management experts who have the experience of running telecom network. Our Indian companies are there, so, notwithstanding the quantum of foreign equity, the fact that foreign equity has become mandatory to bid for basic telecom services, has made our Indian companies also vulnerable to these foreign investors. They are using this leverage to squeeze maximum possible benefit from our Indian companies who have to have partnership with these foreign entities to bid for the basic services. I do not know of any other country, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, where a particular Government announces from the rooftop, "You Indians, you are worthless and unless you have that glittering ten per cent minimum foreign equity, you are not eligible to bid for the basic telcom services of your country." What is more shameful is that the Government also announces that the Indian Government companies cannot bid? Who can bid? There are knowldegeable people and there are people who can supply our substitute Communications Minister with facts and figures. Let them say that there are at least five foreign Government companies which have bid--Troiska Teleca, Singapore Telecom, Malaysia Telecom, all these companies are Government companies. Our poor ITI cannot bid. Our HPL cannot bid. Our State Government undertakings in the communication sector cannot bid. Foreign Government companies can bid. Have you ever heard of any other such atrocious position the Government is taking? And, when it understood, when it realised that this was the logic which could not be sustained with the people, what have they done? On that clarification, on 22nd May, they were saying:" Yes, the Government can bid in partnership with private companies and with foreign partners ... "

But they should not have majority equity. So, ITI would have formed a company with another private sector company and with another foreign company and could have held as much as 49 per cent equity in that company. Does this not amount to misleading the Parliament and the Supreme Court? I will show you,how devious the Government is at this place, when Jaipal Reddyji asked an Unstarred Question 2213, dated 23rd August, about the m bidding, part (b) of the answer given is:

> "The Indian companies registered under the Indian Companies Act, except the Government companies, have been permitted to bid against the tender floated over the provisions of this Telecom Service."

But on the same day when there was a question in Mr. Dipankar Mukherjee's and Nilotpal Basu's names, No. 2228, what was the reply? We put a specific question. "The clarification is there on 27th of May, but these Government companies can bid." This is the reply! Again, the reply to part (b) of the question is: "Yes, PSU can be part of a bidder company. The requirement is that majority of equity of a bidder company should not be held by the Government." This is the kind of deceipt the Government is practising. Is this a democracy"? Is this a welfare State? Is this a Government which proclaims that it is working in the interest of the country? I have no answer. I leave it to the Government. I do not know. 1 do not find any of my friends on the ruling benches. Only the Ministers are there. So, with this kind of interest in the ruling party it is quite natural that this kind of fate is overtaking the country. We have Ministers, we have Governments, who can bluff the Parliament, who can mislead the Supreme Court, who can send the country to dogs. This is the situation in which we are. So, this is a very, very serious situation, Mr. Vice-Chairman.

Sir, the next point that I would like to deal with is the impact of the National Telecom-Policy, and particularly the kind of follow-up measures that the Government has proposed to take in the field of telecom. What is the impact? Again, a very misleading, a very hazy picture is being given by the Government. The prolem is that there are very big waiting lists in the country. It is true that 2.8 million persons are on the waiting list. That was the waiting list when the Telecom Policy was announced. Where was this waiting list spread over? It was spread over 19,500 exchanges of this country. What was the average waiting list per exchange? Sir, again I made it a point, as I mentioned earlier, that since I was not getting a chance to discuss this issue in Parliament, I had very systematically asked questions of the Government and had got replies from the Government which are quite revealing.

Then again, I have got a reply to Unstarred Question 1251 dated 22.3.95 that there are more than 2,000. waiting on the list in one exchange. Only 250 such exchanges are there where the waiting list is more than 2,000, out of the total 19,500 exchanges.

So, the economics of telecom is this. If you disperse the waiting tfct, if the waiting list is small under one exchange, the capital investment line becomes per disproportionately large. My question is whether the private sector investment will take place in a manner which would wipe out the waiting list. Why are the private companies interested? We know why the private companies are interested because they can make profit out of it. If the base where they work is so small, they don't have any profit margin. We know that this privatisation is taking place only in certain circles, not in the whole country. The point is that the profit margin will not be that much in such far-flung areas where the waiting list is dispersed in the country.

The second point is that if the private companies come, the efficiency of the system will improve because there will be competition. There is again a catch. The Minister, before going abroad, has announced, I think, in the Lok Sabha that the Government is going to earn Rs. 1,00,000 crores in terms of licence fee. Out of that approximately Rs. 20,000 crores will come from the cellular service and Rs. 80,000 crores will come from the basic services. Now the point is that a picture is being painted in the country as if these private companies are paying from their own pocket this amount of money to the Government, which will be used for the upkeep of the DOT. But what is the fact?

This licence fee will be collected from the subscribers. Rupees eighty thousand crores means, that is, licence fee spread over a

15-year period, an annual licence fee of Rs. 5,000 per subscriber, given the kind of projections which we have, therefore, what the private sector is going to do is to take cognizance of the nature of the Indian service market. What is the Indian service market? I have a classified document with me on revenue, calls and subscribers for the month of October, 1994. It shows that six per cent of the subscribers contribute as much as 60% of the total revenue earned and conversely about 51% of the total subscribers contribute only 5% of the total revenue. Take a small businessman. What would he do? He would not be interested in the 94% of the subscribers at all. He has flexibility of the market. He will approach only that six per cent which is paying the lion's share of the revenue because he will have to make good for his licence fee, incidental charges and all that. Therefore, what happens? On one side of the scale of competition we have the DoT, which is a national network, which has to serve 100% of the subscribers, and on the other side of the scale, we have these private companies, who address and target only the six per cent. There is an inherent advantage for the private sector companies. This is an inherently uneven playing field for the private sector. The DoT, being a part of the Government, cannot approach the Indian capital market for mobilisation of its resources. These foreign companies get a solid line from their multinational banks. When we talk of global competition, even competition, what are the kinds of contracts? Deferred payments will have to be made. Lease payments will have to be made. I have no objection to these things. Will our IDBI or other credit line, for example, the Chase Manhattan bank or other giant financial institutions organise for AT & T or the Japanese financial institutions organise for Fijitsu or other companies?

This is an inherent unequal situation where the DoT will go to the dogs. The DoT cannot survive this competition because we have an uneven playing field. Now, along with the DoT, what will be the position of the indigenous sector? It is stated in the National Telecom Policy document that one of the objectives of the National Telecom Policy will be that India has to become a major exporter of telecom equipments and within the framework of the National Telecom Policy we will encourage indigenous telecome industries. What isthe situation today? We again started putting questions. Shri Jaipal Reddy also put a couple of questions. Our question was this. The most sound public sector telecom equipment manufacturing company is the ITI and it has gone into the red. They have made a cash loss of Rs. 82 crores. Why did it happen? The answer of the Government was that they were losing of competition and that it was the responsibility of the ITI to find ways and means for diversification. It is for the ITI management to find ways and means to mobilise resourcesl. What is the sheddy story? Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, you know that right now the ITI is having an order of Rs. 100 crores from the DOT. But, it, could not execute it. Why? It could not execute it because the signature of the Chairman, ITI is required for diversification. For the last six months the proposal for the appointment of the Chairman, ITI is laying with the Cabinet Secretariat and the Cabinet Secretariat is sitting over the order paper. The ITI is making losses. The ITI is not getting credit. When the ITI asked for bidding of its basic services, it was told not do it. But all of a sudden, on 27th May, it was told that you can team up with other private sector entities and with other foreign entities and can bid. On 23rd June the bid was closed. They are being misled purposely so that they can be edged out of the process of competition. This is how we are dealing with our indigenous public sector companies. If we contrast it with the attitude of the Government towards the private operators or the so-called licensees who will come into the basic telecom field if the Government is allowed to implement its policies, what will happen? Initially it was announced by the Government that though the private operators will be operating on the basis of one circle, but the intra circle STD, long distance calls, will not be opened up. But, again the Government has gone back. When I asked about it on 27th May, they said, "No, intra circle STD can be opened up to the private sector and they can instal the earth station." The TRAI was supposed to be formed to oversee the process of privatisation. You know. Sir. what kind of a fate the TRAI has met in this House because of the Bill that was brought here. It was a sham. The Government also admitted that it was a sham. So, it will wait till the next session to come here with a comprehensive Bill.

But, what has been done? Access charges had to be paid to the DoT and the MTNL and the VSNL. There was an arrangement.

The arrangement was that 84 paise per call was to be paid by the M.T.N.L. to the D.O.T and the V.S.N.L. for STD calls and 64 paise per call was to be paid to these agencies for internal or national STD calls. The Government has again revised those rates. Now, 60 paise per call will be charged from these private companies for ISD calls and 50 paise per call for STD calls. What is the calculating? The Government is telling us that they are going to collect Rs. 80,000 crores as licence fee. And, what is the amount that they are going to lose out because of this revision of the access fee rates? It will be Rs. 30,000 crores to Rs. 35,000 crores. I challenge the Minister to contest my figures. (Interuptions

मैं जानता हूं। ऐसे लोग हैं इसीलिए इस देश में ऐसी नीति हो रही हैं।

**श्री एस.एस.अहलुवालिया**: क्या आप चैलेंज दे रहें हैं ?

श्री नीलोत्पल बसुः जरूर चैलेंज दूंगा । देश को बरबाद कर रहे हो तो इस चैलेंज नहीं करेंगे ?

SHRI M.A. BABY: We are sorry that the Minister who should have faced these challenges is absent.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: He challenged you last time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): Kindly conclude, Mr. Basu.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Just five minutes more, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. I have almost concluded it. So this is the situation that whatever they are supposed to get as licence fee, which the private companies will subsequently raise from the subscribers, they have already given it with the left hand by opening up of the intra-Circle STD and by revising the rates of the STD and the ISD access fee. They have made this kind of a gift to the private companies.

Another point that is being made is that if there are so many competitors, the services will automatically improve. But, has competition really any connection with efficiency? We have so many countries in the world today where Government monopoly is there, where monoply of private corporations and public corporations is there. But their telecom systems are fine. There is no problem. It is there in Germany, France, Britain and so many other countries. Even in America it was almost a monopoly of the AT&T. So, Sir, I think this attempt to draw such kind of a comparison in the telecom sector is misplaced. It doesn't tally with the actual reality that is obtaining in different parts of our country.

Sir, another point that 1 would like to make is that this policy and the approach of the Government is also going to increase the regional imbalance. I was talking about the waiting lists. Another point was that some of the telecom Circles are loss-making and some of the Circles are profit-making. We heard initially, even from the Prime Minister-it was •rumoured; I cannot speak very firmly about it -that one Circle will be clubbed with one loss-making Circle so that there is a balance. But later on no such clubbing was there and the result, as you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, also know, was that already there was no bid for Kashmir and for six Circles, there is only one single bidder! What will happen? And, if you see the pattern of bidding also, it is very interesting to find that it is mainly for 'A' category Circles. For 'A' category Circles, the total number of bids is 42 and the percentage of these bids to the total number of bids is 52%. For 'B' category Circles, the figure is 29 and 36%. For 'C category Circles, the number of bids is 10 and their percentage to the total number of bids is 12%.

So, there is no doubt that those underdeveloped areas in the name of wh ich we are allowing this entry of the private sector in the basic services, they are just not interested in our backward areas, they are interested in Maharashtra, in Gujarat, in Madras, in Calcutta, in Bombay, and in our major places from where bulk of our revenue comes and the point 1 was making earlier, in terms of subscribers and percentage of revenue, that again is substantiated with the pattern in which the private companies have tended to bid for these different categories of bids.

There were other omissions also. I don't know so many things are there, who is responsible for what because, the other day, the Communication Minister was saying that his Ministry has not done this, it is the Prime Minister's office that U.S. West was given a letter of intent for a pilot project. Now, I don't know whether you know of it that pilot project running into ten years and involving an investment of one billion dollars. So, that is the kind of pilot project we have given permission to the U.S. West and now they are the major bidders in major four 'A' category circles. So, this is the situation.

Finally, I would like to say about tariffs. So, in this uneven competition, if the DoT has to survive — who will take care of the majority of our subscribers, to the tune of 90 per cent — they cannot survive without raising the tariff. So, the average subscriber will have to indirectly face a tariff hike and the private companies in absentia enjoy that tariff hike by the DoT because the highest tariff level is determined by the DoT tariff rate.

Finally and most importantly, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, that there should be a really very serious enquiry about the security implications of inducting private companies into the basic telecom services where foreign equity up to 49 per cent is allowed. I don't know whether any serious evaluation has taken place because again, I submit, that there are written replies by the Government where it is totally wishy-washy about it. I only know when the Gulf War was being fought, when Iraq attacked Kuwait, it was first the communication earth station which was attacked. I only know of this that when the United States, under the aegis of the U.N., attacked Iraq, they attacked the communication lines of Iraq. I only know of this that last year our neighbour Pakistan wanted to privatise communications. There was a year-long debate in Pakistan media about that prospect, and, finally, they decided not to go in for privatisation because of security concerns. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am aware that now there is a report available in the United States where they say that the CIA is investing a large amount for evesdropping in the communication network of different countries. I don't say with the DOT around, I mean, we are foolproof, but with foreigners involved, and, more so, foreign government companies involved, the security question, the stake is really high. I just want that there shold be a proper evaluation. 1 don't know whether the armed forces, whether the para-military forces, whether different intelligence agencies have been really involved

in the process of risk evaluation for inducting private telecom companies with as high as 49 per cent foreign equity, and whether this security question has been really gone through or not.

I think my points are self-explanatory. So, I would like to appeal to the Government, I would like to urge upon the Government; thus far, and no further. About value-added services we have no problem, let us go in for the opening-up, let us go in for a transparent process of tendering and all that, but so far as basic services are concerned, from any angle, from any point of view, we really do not need the private sector investment, less so, the foreign equity component. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government really to roll back the policy offensive that it has unveiled. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI NARAYANASAMY V (PONDICHERRY): Mr. Vice-Chairman, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. I was hearing the hon. Member, Shri Basu, who moved this Private Member's Resolution in this august House on a very important subject, which is a matter of discussion throughout the country. There are opinons for and against the Telecome Policy that has been announced by the Government. Sir, the hon. Member in his resolution has stated, "This House resolves that the operative aspects of the New Telecom Policy and the subsequent measures initiated by the Government affecting the basic telecom services are detrimental to the interests of the subscribers, the pople and the country and urges upon the Government to reverse the present direction." This is what the hon. Member wanted. In his argument, he was telling about the equity participation by the private multinational companies, the price factor and the security. He has referred to various aspects in this regard. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, when Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister of this country, it was his vision that this country should have a quick telecom system. He wanted cellular, telephones to be introduced in the whole country. Thereafter, when the present Government, headed by Shri Narasimha Raoji, took over and brought in the New Economic Policy, the New Import-Export Policy and the globalisation of economy, it was felt absolutely necessary that the country should have a telecom policy which is suitable to this particular atmosphere. For that. Sir, the

Government has brought this New Telecom Policy by which it wants competition between the public sector and the private sector. Sir, I represent the working community-but I find because there I should not shirk my responsibility as a citizen of this country.--the amount of hardship and the sufferings the people have undergone because of the strikes and various sabotaging works that have been done by various people. The telecom service of this country was paralysed on several occasions. I am not blaming anybody in t"his matter. Sometimes management may be right, sometimes employees may be right. 1 am not going into that aspect at all. By the new policy of liberslisation, they want the public sector and the private sector to grow side by side. When it is a loss-making unit, the Government should not pump its funds into that unit which cannot be revived. But when in the public sector there is a viable unit, the Goverment is prepared to invest more. This is the policy of the Government. When we go by to the basic telecom service, the hon. Member was telling that as far as basic services are concerned, the Government should be very careful and we should not succumb to the presure of the multinationals and we should not give up the security aspect All these aspects will be considered. Sir, I was quoting China. I would like to quote our neighbouring coutries, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, etc ....

....whether the private companies have set up the cellular telephones. They were operating it long back when India started the process. And they have been successful. Sir, which system has to be operated and how the bidding is to be done are matters of procedure. I am not going into that aspect. I am on the basic question of whether the private parties and the multinationals have to be allowed to enter into the telecom sector or not. For that, the issue is that it has to be because of the globalisation of the economy that has been done by the Government. While doing so, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that the Government has to be vigilant and the Government should also see that the subscribers get the benefit out of it. When you compare the multi-nationals coming here and setting up and cooperating with us in the telecom sector I feel that the subscribers should be given the benefit that has been given by the public sector, that is, the telecom organisation

in this country. Sir. I want the hon. Minister to clarify a point, I may not be right also. 1 was . told, Sir, that in the telecom sector for a single telephone call, the telecom is charging about one rupee per subscriber for a local call. But if it is a cellular telephone that has been used by the subscriber, I was told that it is eight times more. Why this anomaly is there? After all, we are bringing the multinational to come over here and compete with the public sector and when that being the case, why do you give them more leverage at the cost of the subscriber? This is the question which the hon. Minister has to answer. Sir, when the telecom policy was discussed in the Standing Committee and the report was also submitted in this august House, and last time also when the Bill was brought in the Members raised various issues relating to the ....

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Just one minute. The policy was never discussed first, it was the Bill which was discussed.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: When the Bill came into the House for discussion, the hon. Minister wanted to present the Bill in the next session of Parliament. The Members made a fervent appeal that the Minister should not agree to processing the technical bidding and the financial bidding and he should not proceed further because the Telecom Regulatory Authority as contemplated under the Act has not been approved by the Parliament and therefore, this cannot be taken into consideration. Sir, I would like to submit that when it is a question of the Government taking a decision and proceeding with that for selecting the competitors, the Government will take all care to see that they do not violate the letter of law and also the procedure and they go by the approval which the Parliament has given in this regard. Sir, now, in the new system, the pager has been introduced in this country, in various cities and it has been more helpful to the subscribers. It has been given to some of the Indian companies who have got collaboration with the foreign companies and it has been helpful to the people, especially, the business community, the traders, the exporters and also the industrialists and the people who are living in the far-flung areas. Sir, 1 am confident thai with this Cellular telephone that has been introduced, when it comes into operation, definitely it will have competition.

Telecom Policy 308

That will improve the work culture of the employees of the Telecom Department because we find that, of late, there are so many complaints from the subscribers against the employees working there in the Telecom Department. I am not talking of the engineering staff alone. There are several compalints from the subscribers. Even the hon. members have raised several times in this House about overbilling, tapping of telephones of people, and meddling with the telephones of the people. So many complaints have been there. But, unfortunately, none of them is attended to. Whether it is the Minister or the Telecom Authority which has been functioning in various parts of the country, they do not even bother to look into the compalints of the subscribers. Sir, I have a personal experience about this overbilling. Several hon. Members also raised this issue in the House. When the hon. Members are not in station, when they are not here in Delhi and when they are in their constituencies, they get a bill of Rs. 4,000/- or Rs. 5,000/-. And when they write to the Telecom Department, no reply is received by them. They are not responding even to die letters of the Members of Parliament. Secondly, what happens is.when we write to the Minister, the reply comes to us saying that it has been a mistake, and they are reviewing it. What will they do, Sir? They make an average calculation of the metre-reading, and then they arrive at a certain figure. Who is punished for the mistake of the employees who go there for metre-reading' The subscriber is punished.

Sir. I made a suggestion to the Hon. Minister that vou have a small metrer in the Telecom Department. The subscriber will know how many calls he has made. That can be compared with the meter you have in the Telecom Department, and the common man, the subscriber will not feel the burden of it. The Minister said that it is a good proposal, but nothing has been done about it. Sir, these are the basic problems which the subscribers are facing in our country. Sir, the demand for telecom services, specially the telephones has increased by more than 100 per cent. The Telecom Department is not in a position to meet this demand. No doubt, because of the investment by the Government and the flow of funds from the Telecom Department for the purpose of devleoping the telecom sector, several lakhs of telephone connections have

been given to the people. Still, the number of wait-listed persons, those who have paid the deposits for getting the telephone connections, in both rural and urban areas, is running into several lakhs. The pace at which they are going, the Telecom Department, even after 2,000 AD may not be able to meet the demand of the people for telephone connections. Therefore, Sir, by asking the private companies to come forward and invest money in the telecom sector by introducing cellular telephones, I feel, we may be able to meet, to a large extent, the demand for telephones from the wait-listed people. Sir, the Government is not able to invest there. But, as I said, the subscribes' interests have also to be safeguarded. For that, whatever system or method you want to adopt, you should adopt. And whatever rules and regulations have to be made, you should do that. Sir, in the United States, in the developed countries of the Europe, and in some of the developing countries, the system is functioning very well. They have got total privatisation in those countries. But, in India, when we wanted the public sector and the private Sector to compete, there is a lot of criticism.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Sir, just a minute. Mr. Narayanasamy is time and again saying about the private sector. I would like to ask him: In which countries is the basic telecom sector under the private sector? Will he provide a list of those countries?

# 4.00 P.M.

The resolution also refers to the basic telecom services. We are talking here about the basic telecom services and, according to the National Telecom Policy document, cellular services are value-added services. At the very outset, I made this point very clear that we had no objection to the opening up of the value-added services; absolutely no objection. If the process is transparent, if things are not given without tender, we have no problem.

**श्री महेश्वर सिंह**: बसु जी,यह एक खराब केस की एक अच्छे वकील की तरह वकालत कर रहे हैं?

SHRI V. NARAYANSAMY: The hon. Member discussed with us. For example, Chile; Trinidad and Tobago; the Latin American countries. In all these countries, basic telecom services are opened up. He told me. I have to give the names. THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): You give your list to the Minister. He will give the names.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: The Minister knows everything. Therefore, I need not tell him anything. The hon. Member asked me the question. Therefore, I am responding. Anyway, it is for the Minister to respond.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): You carry on now.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: The hon. Member was talking about the equity participation. He aruged elaborately, while giving his views, about the equity participation in the telecom sector. I would like to remined the hon. Member that the policy of the Government of India is one of having fifty-one per cent equity participation in all sectors. We have not deviated from that policy. He was quoting China and other countries. Whenever it is convenient to them, they would quote. Whenever it is not convenient to them, when we tell them, they would not accept. Anyway, I am not going into that aspect.

On one point, on one aspect, I agree with the hon. Member, i.e., the security of the country. I agree with him on that.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: This is precisly why the question of foreign equity would come up time and again.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: It does not come.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: It cannot be compared with the other sectors. Why is America having a ceiling of only twenty per cent of foreign equity? It is allowed hundred per cent in other sectors.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I do not want to answer the hon. Member. The Minister will answer.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): You do not assume the responsibility.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I am not assuming any responsibility.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): Mr. Narayanasamy, I would advise you not to join issue with Mr. Basu. He is more informed about the telecom sector....

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I know very well.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): The only Member, I suppose.

SHRI V NARAYANASAMY: We both went and addressed meetings. We know.

The point I was making was that Government of India's policy on equity participation is perfectly all right. This was the point I wanted to draw your attention to. The policy of the Government of India is to have the majority shareholding, i.e., 51 per cent; whether it is in the telecom sector or in any other sector. There is no deviation from that policy by the Government, on any account. This applies to all the sectors; the consumer industries sector, the basic services sector and the core sector, which the Government is concentrating on.

The hon. Member was mentioning that Dy this new telecom policy, it is detrimental to the interests of the subscribers. But he has to tell us—he has to substantiate—as to how it is detrimental. The hon. Member also said that by going in for privatisation, the interests of the people would be affected. He has to tell us as to how they would be affected.

What do you find in the world arena where many countries are going in for privatisation? Today, in the case of China, for example, the investment from abroad is twenty billion dollars. In India, it is not even 1.6 billion dollars, as far as the NRI investment is concerned. The investent in China by the American and Japanese companies is enorumous. Therefore, Sir, the Government of India has to see whether the entry of the private sector into this sector is beneficial to the people of this country. That is the basic point. The question is whether the country would be benefited by it or not. The question is whether the people of this country would get any advantage out of it or not. That is the point we have to see. But, unfortunately, they are making a political issue out of it. I have some reservations on it. I have some reservations on the national security. I have some reservations which I would like to tell the hon. Minister. By the new Telecom policy, how are you going to safeguard, and what mechanism have you arrived at, for the purpose of checking those multinationals who are coming here and to see that the national interest is not affected? Will the hon. Minister answer that point also? It is a

very important point and nobody can make any compromise on that, neither the Government of India nor the Opposition. We have a very clear-cut opinion about it. Therefore, Sir, I think this new Telecom policy which the Govmment of India has brought will be for the benefit of the consumer. If the hon. Member has put his Resolution in such a way that it is in the interests of the subscribers, I would have supported the Resolution. Now I am not in a position to support his Resolution because he wanted the total Telecom policy of the Government of India to be scrapped.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU : Again I have to object because you have not gone through the Resolution also. I am speaking about a limited aspect of the National Telecom Policy. The problem with some Members is that they speak without listening to other speakers. I said that it has unexceptionable objectives. We have no objection to the induction of private investment, even foreign investment. But the question is of ownership. Whether we are in such a vulnerable position that we have to concede ownership and operational control to private companies with as much as 49 per cent equity is the question.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम(उत्तर प्रदेश): बसु जी,आपके सवालों का जवाब मंत्री जी देंगे,उन्हें बोलने दीजिए वरना मंत्री जी को मौका ही नहीं मिलेगा और यह रेजाल्युशन आज समाप्त हो जाएगा।

श्री नीलोत्पल बसु: यह रेजोल्यूशन हैं,इसलिए मजबरी में मुझे उठना पड रहा हैं।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Sir, I will read only a small portion of my learned colleague's Resolution: "....... the operative aspects of the New Telecom Policy and the subsequent measures initiated by the Government affecting the basic telecom services are detrimental...." This shows that the Telecom Policy and the subsequent measures which the Government of India is taking affect the interests of the consumers. Therefore, on the whole he wants the entire Telecom Policy to be revised. That is what I read according to the Resolution moved by the hon. Member. He can have a different

perception—I am not going into it. THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL) : You don't get derailed by the intervention of Mr. Basu. He is interested in derailing you. Also, please conclude early.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I am very clear in my perception. When Ehe Hon. Member brought this Resolution, I also went through the papers that have been circulated by the employees' organization, the engineers and others. Their basic fear is that they will be dislodged from service. They are afraid that with the private investment coming here in basic telecom sector, there will not be job security to the people employed in the Telecom sector. Their grievances are genuine, I agree. I also feel that the hon. Minister has to give an assurance on the floor of the House that the employees who are working in the Telecom sector, especially engineers and those who have been there for the last several vears

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: From the ITI also.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : I am talking about the entire technical staff and others; I am talking about everybody.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतमःउपसभाध्यक्ष श्री,मंत्री जी से कहिए कि वे इंटरवीन करें और कोई जवाब दें । यह रेजाल्यूशन हैं,अगले सेशन में जाएगा नहीं । नारायणसामी जी,आप कृपया कन्कलूड कीजिए और उन्हें कहने दीजिए।

SHRI JAGESH DESAI : I fully agree with you. Otherwise it will lapse.

SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM : Let him intervene. We are concerned with the reply of the Government—what is the intention of the Government and what it wants to do. There is no use of making speeches. Therefore, let the hon. Minister intervene.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): Mr. Gautam, you are right. I have made it very clear to Mr. Basu that we have to dispose of this Resolution today. ....(Interructions)

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: It cannot be. It will lapse. So, it is better if you want to .\_....

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: No, it does not lapse because there is a precedent in this House that a Resolution also can continue if the House so desires.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): Even then, Mr. Narayansamy you conclude early. After all there are many speakers. The Minister has to reply. The Mover of the Resolution also has to reply. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, after speaking in favour of the Policy. I have to speak in favour of the employees also. Otherwise it may seem that I have been supporting the Government and ignoring the employees' interests.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सतीश अग्रवाल): 25 मिनट तो आपने विशेषमें लिए और 25 मिनट समर्थन में बोलेंगे।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAY: Sir, this is the last point. I am concluding. I want the hon. Minister to clarify whether there will be safeguards in the interest of the employees who are working in the telecom sector. They gave been giving calls for *dhama*. They have been calling intellectuals to discuss the Telecom Policy (*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): Mr. Jibon Roy please.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Therefore, I want the hon. Minister to clarify how they are going to take care of the employees' interests because as I said earlier the public sector and the private sector should simultaneously grow and in that process the public sector employees should not be sacked. Therefore 1 want the hon. Minister to clarify the position.

I totally disapprove of the Resolution moved by the hon. Member, Mr. Nilotal Basu.

With this, I conclude.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): Thank you Mr. Narayanasamy.

Mr. T.N. Chaturvedi. You will kindly keep in mind that this has to be disposed of today if possible.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI (UTTAR PRADESH): Fortunately for me Mr. Nilotpal Basu, the Mover of the Resolution has spoken at length on the subject. I have not much to add to what he has said. Still, I think since this matter has not been discussed at all in this House it has not been discussed at all in Parliament I think a few additional things have to be said.

I will just like to mention that the National Telecom Policy Resolution was announced some time in May 1994. Mr. Basu has already mentioned the background in which Utis Policy Resolution was brought before the House. It was not listed. It was brought in the afternoon or in the evening. There was hardly any discussion on it. I think that has created a lot of misgivings.

So far as the Policy Resolution is concerned as was mentioned there are five brodly objectives. I don't want to mention them at any great length but just to remind ourselves, I will certainly like to mention them very briefly.

First, availability of the service to all; its access to all.

Second to achieve universal service at an affordable price.

Third service of the world standard.

Fourth to ensure that India emerges as a major manufacturer. It is important to remind ourselves of this.

The last is the defence and security of the country. All are very laudable objectives. But the steps taken subsequently to implement this Policy are all debatable. That is very important. The policy line of the Government is that nothing important should be discussed in this House or in Parliament and that both the Houses should be rendered irrelevant.

I just want to remind you and throught you the House that the Plan which is going to end after two years has not been discussed in either of the two Houses. The references to the telecom Policy in the-Eighth Plan have not been discussed in this House. There was some talk about the mid-term appraisal of the Plan. We do not know about it. This is the way the Government looks at or interprets transparency mobilising the people informing the people and ensuring their participation!

Sir, Mr. Narayanasamy said a number of things while defending Policy. That is why I would first like to ask three questions about the National Telecom Policy. The fist thing I would like to tell the Minister, before I come to the Policy-as such, is that plans were drawn as early has 1987 throught the 'mission: better communication', 'objective — customer, satisfaction' to introduce all the tools and systems to effectively improve the services and to bring them on a par with the best internationally, improvements in that regard were required to be made. All these phrases come later on in the Telecom Policy also. I

understand, probably some improvements had started to appear sometime in 1988. But, what happened thereafter? I understand the Government had constituted a Telecom Commission. Can we know what has been the result of this particular document and subsequent infrastructure that they built? What has been achieved throught that? Can we have an assessment? Why suddently there was hitransition to a new Telecom Policy from the Rajiv Gandhi regime to which even now daily lip-homage is paid? What happened to that? Why was suddenly a decent burial given to this and where is 'the mission: better communications'? Nobody hears of it any more. Strangely enough all improvements were promised. I would just refer to only to Annual Report. Against the target as envisaged of ten faults per hundred subscribers per month to be achieved by March 1990 and by March, 1995, figure reported for March 1994 in the Annual Report of the Department is 18.3. They were to be reduced to 5. They have gone up to 18.5. What what exactly is the assessment. This is my first point for clarification.

Secondly, long back in 1987 or so, there was a proposal before the Governnent to reorganise six production units of ITI at Bangalore, Palghat, Rae Barely Manakpur, Naini and Srinagar into three independent corporate units. Now, you talk of autonomy. What was done at that time was to form themselves into a stategic alliance with advanced groups. There would have also been a competition among these units and they could also have built alliances with the MNCs, if necessary, at that time on a corporate basis. Why was this not done and why was it shot down? This was the policy which was initiated earlier.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): Just a minute Mr. Chaturvedi. Several hon. Members seek protection from the

Chair. Today the Chair is seeking protection from the hon. Members. As no panel Vlce-Chairman is available for relieving me, ......

SHRITRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Mr. Ahluwalia is there.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): He is not the Pane! Vice-Chairman.

So, may I have permission to ask somebody else to relieve me? I am requesting Mr. Sangh Priya Gautam.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): So, I have the permission of the House.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri Sangh Priya Gautam): In the Chair]

SHRITRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the third thing which I would like to know is this. Since this policy was initiated sometime last year, 1994, more than one year has elapsed. The Government has not unveiled any specific steps for improving the quality Of the service in the DOT. So far as the DOT is concerned, what exactly have they done to improve then performance.

Hardly a day passes when the Government does not talk of improvement in the services. But we also read daily in the English newspapers or vernacular newspapers almost the agony column about inflated telephone bills, long waiting queues, dead telephones and so on and so forth. Therefore, I would like to know from the Minister what steps are being taken to improve the telephone services to the customers by DOT.

Sir, coming to the National Telecom Policy, I am afraid, the background in which this was conceived, the way this was brought before the House itself shows that there was something to be hidden. As has been mentioned, this Policy has been hustled through because the Prime Minister had to go to the United States to meet the President of that country. The marks of that haste, duress, whether directly or indirectly, are there on that particular Policy.

So far as the Telecom Policy is concerned, some of the objectives are evidently quite laudable. But unfortunately what violates subsequently is more important. The Telecom guidelines for the entry of private sector were issued in September, 1994. Again this was done while the Minister was going to Kyoto. Why was this hurry? These guidelines were never brought before this House. It is also understood that these policy guidelines were actually approved not by the Cabinet but by the extra Constitutioal authority which we always hear of it, that is, the Prime Minister's Office, who are either elusive or present every where, whehter it is the decision about import of sugar or whether it is about this particular Policy.Tht third step was also not done in a proper form. In this particular guideline, I find that there is a talk of TRAI, Telegraphic Regulatory Authority of India. This is the first time that we have come across such a reference. Somehow or the other this Bill was withdrawn. There are some features of the guidelines I do not want to read them in full. I would just indicate very briefly the eligibility of companies, geographical area, operations, licensing authority and the area of licence in the pilot project. I do not want to repeat them because Mr. Nilotpal Basu has mentioned as to what kind of aberrations have been gone into these. Now, the scope of the Indian registered companies was enlarged for the first time, and this is what is important, to include joint ventures with foreign companies subject to the latter holding not more than 49 per cent equity. There is not reference at all about foreign companies in the origninal Policy.

The scope of Indian registered companies was enlarged or broadened deaptively and this exercise was not above board. For the first time this has been done. I will come to that a little later.

As I said, the members who accompanied ihe Minister have boasted that India had opened even the telephone services up to 49 per cent. That is why the figures which have been mentioned by Mr. Basu of fourgh participation in other become important. I do not want to repeat them because I was told about the constraint of time.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम): आप बड़े अनुभवी हैं। आपके बड़े अमूल्य विचार हैं। हम समझते हैं आप विस्तार से विचार दे सकते हैं। लेकिन मैं चाहूंगा कि सरकार का भी दृष्टिकोण इस पर आये इसलिए अच्छा हो कि आप सूक्ष्म हों कि आप सूक्ष्म में अपनी मुल्य बातें कह दें।

श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदी: वही करने की कोशिश कर रहा हूं।

The third thing is about the timing of the release of this document few hours before his going to Kyoto. This speaks eloquently about ihis particular policy. Otherwise, the<sup>r</sup>e is not objection to the objectives of policy. There is another strange thing. Everything was repeated

in that Bill, now with drawn the statement of objects, etc. Only the security aspect was not at all referred to. This is, perhaps, because they took it to be axiomatic, they took it for granted and forgot it.

Now, I want to come to the question of the Public Telephone Service tender. This is the third document. The tender document inviting bids for grant of licences for operating the public telephone services by the private sector was finalised and released. When? A few hours before the United States Commerce Secretary Brown came with a high-powered delegation. Let this fact be disputed. Let the timing be disputed. It was released a few hours before Mr. Brown, with his delegation, arrived in this country. And about the tenders, I will have something more to say. The difficulty, as I said, is that the implementational strategy, the way they have gone around in implementing this policy, is not likely to fulfil any of the objectives, including raising of resources to fill the resource gap as was mentioned by Mr. Nilotpal Basu. I have a few comments about that. These tenders have introduced this concept of foreign companies and so on. That is a very queer thing. I will have something to say at length about one aspect of foreign participation. It is not known whether the intelligence agencies, the army and the defence services were consulted. I do not know whether they were consulted. Each of them has developed communication systems of its own. Were all these agencies consulted? This is, somehow, the question that really worried me. And I am saying that because I can say with authority and a sense of responsibility that in matters relating to GATT, the production and research wings of the Ministry of Defence or the Ministry of Science and Technology were not consulted. They themselves have related their woes in private. 1 am not sure thus even about the security aspect of telecom policy. Only vesterday, I read about the police, that training would also be imparted by foreigners. The hon. Minister had been a very distinguished police officer. I think that one of the oldest training centres is in India --1 do not want to digress at that particular point

**श्री ईश दत्त यादव**ः उपसभाध्यक्ष जी,इस आसन पर मैं आपका स्वागत करता हूं ।

# - उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम): धन्यवाद ।

श्री ईश दत्त यादवः मैं आपसे एक व्यवस्था चाहता था । समय कम हैं और बोलने वाले हम कई लोग हैं। सब के कुछ न कुछ विचार हैं । इसलिए मैं निवेदन कर रहा हूं कि आप इसको समयबद्ध चलायें ताकि हम लोगों को भी दो-दो,चार-चार मिनट मिल जाएं और मंत्री जी भी इस पर अपने विचार रख सकें ।यह मेरा अनुरोध हैं और आपके माध्यम से माननीय सदस्य से भी मेरी यह रेक्वेस्ट हैं ।

श्री महेश्वर सिंह: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया,यह एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय हैं । जैसा कि अभी माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि बहुत से सदस्य इस पर अपने विचार रखना चाहता हैं । साथ ही जो मंत्री हैं वह भी नहीं हैं । उनकी जगह पर ये जवाब दे देंगे लेकिन मुझे नहीं लगता कि इतने कम समय में इतना काम हो पाएगा । सब विस्तार से इस पर अपने विचार रखें,ऐसी सारे सदन की मंशा हैं । इसलिए आपकी अनुमति से यह चर्चा अगले सत्र तक के लिए बढ़ा देनी चाहिए । अगले सत्र में इसको किया जा सकता हैं । ....(व्यवधान)...पिछली बार इसी तरह का एक प्रस्ताव कन्टिन्यू किया गया था ।

श्री महेश्वर सिंह: पिछली बार भी इस प्रकार की अनुमति दी गई थी ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम): माननीय ईश दत्त यादव जी,आपकी अनुपस्थिति में मैंने स्वंय चतुर्वेदी जी से प्रार्थना की थी कि इस पर सरकार का दृष्टिकोण आ जाए। चूंकि यह संकल्प हैं इसलिए नियमानुसार यह अगले सत्र के लिए टाला नहीं जा सकता। यदि सदन की राय होगी तो इस पर विचार किया जा सकता हैं लेकिन जब चर्चा का अंत होने को होगा तब। सवां पांच बजे तक इस पर चर्चा हो सकती हैं। इसलिए संक्षेप में माननीय सदस्यगण अपने अमुल्य विचार रखें।

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: I would like to say two things about the tender documents. I would not like to take more time.

[T\* Vice-Chairman (Shri V. Narayanasamy) in the Chair]

I just want to bring two facts about these tenders to the notice of the House and as requested by Mr. Ish Dutt Yadav, 1 would like to wind up very shortly and probably, when the Minister brings a comprehensive Bill, we may have an opportunity to discuss the matters again. The first thing is, the Government did its best to keep the tender beyond the reach of ihe general public. Is this transparency? I am quoting from the document. "This document, including annexures, is meant only for genuine uses of the purchaser and circulation to others is prohibited." Why is its prohibited? If I am a research scolar in the Civil Communications systems and I want to compare the tender policies of the United States, Pakistan, India, Thailand or Indonesia, why should it be so? I have never seen this secrecy in a tender. Of course, it has been priced at Rs. one lakh which I can well understand. I do'nt mind that one lakh rupees. Even Enron had said that they would take Rs. 500/- for giving a copy of the contract to the newspaper people. I don't mind that. But this shows the ambivalent attitude of the people who are doing it. Obviously, the Press cannot afford Rs. one lakh and they will not ask for it. This was apparently to avoid any public discussion of the issue of vital national interest because the policy itself had been questioned in the Press and by the public at various levels.

The second thing, another very interesting thing is, how have the foreign companies been given preference? This is very important. The tender document, while ostensibly implementing the policy, in fact, made new policy. It has not only been elaborated, but it is a new policy and this is also beind the back of Parliament and the people in general. A joint vc.Uure with foreign company with a minimum of 10 per cent foreign equity and maximum of 49 per cent foreign equity, which was optical even as per the guidelines of September 1994 -- the guidelines had made it optional-now this tender makes it mandatory.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: When were the tenders floated?

#### SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

The tenders were floated in January 1995 when the U.S. Commerce Secretary, Brown, came to India.At that time, the tenders were floated. You inducted the private companies. I don't mind. Then they visited India and so on. 1 have no ideological hang-over private companies if they help in implementing yourTelecom policy. Now, this was made mandatory in a very clever, ingenious way and also, 1 must say, in a dubious manner. See the stipulations. Now, the bidder should have experience as a service provider and a network operator of a public switched Telephone Network, with a minimum subscriber base of five lakhs, in terms of DEL's BLF served as on 1.1.95. Secondly, the bidder must not be a Government company, as defined in the Indian Companies Act, as was mentioned by Mr. Nilotpal Basu. I can give the names of a number of Government companies from abroad, such as Telstar of Australia, PTT Guondong of China, Deutche Telecom of Germany, Bezec of Israel, NTT of Japan, Telecom Malaysia of Malaysia. Who are binding.

These are all the foreign companies. But our Government companies, i.e., ITI, BEL and the DOT itself could have gone in for it on a collaborative basis. Then it is stated: "The binder must not be a Government company as defined in the Companies Act" The experience of a promotor company, which has an equity of ten per cent or more, will be added to the experience of a bidder company! Total bidder company's experience, the holding company's experience will be added! Have you ever seen this level playing field. Mr. Vice-Chairman, the powers that you enjoy will be added to mine even if I am not invited to sit in your Chair! "The experience of a promotor company which has an equity of ten per ceat or more will be added to the experience of the bidder company." These foreign companies, both large and small, virtually got a green signal. What one sees is a spectacle of large business houses like Tatas Reliance, Birlas, etc., going round and wooing small companies all over the world pleading, you please come; Reliance, Birlas, etc. and all those who are representatives of industry are friends of the Government and they are also the guide of the Government in these matters. but even then they have to run helter-skelter all over the world to woo some small companies. Sir, the Parliament approval to the policy changes in the tender document, I think, is essential because you are making these changes in the policy. You only showed to us a particular document of policy, and in that, these changes were never discussed, and we only assume that they would be discussed later on.

Then, Sir, a number of things have been mentioned about the clarifications that were given later on. Though there are a lot of things to be said so far as this particular aspect of foreign participation is concerned, I do not want lo go into all the details for the particular reason, as you mentioned, that they would be discussed later. Again, I would like to say that all the six particular items, that you have mentioned as your objectives, will not be achieved the way you are trying to implement your Policy. It also appears true from the facts and figures which are culled out from the Government documents in the Government Departments. Not only that, I would also like to mention one thing more. The Policy says that we want to be the biggest nianufacturer ol telecom equipment in the country. That is what you want. What is the weightage given to indigenous equipment? Three per cent! Only three per cent! Now, is this the way that you want to take this country ahead for manufacturing this equipment? Sir, one has to .go into a lot of facts and figures, and, as 1 said. since Nilotpal Basu has spoken at great length, and in all fairness to other Members, I would like to stop at this particular point though I would have liked to mention a number of other things from the document, particularly from the analysis of the tenders and the analysis of rhe facts and figures of the revised Plan as have been given in the Telecom Policy, to justify my point. 1 think Nilotpal Basu is certainly right in saying, on a very firm ground, that this Telecom Policy will only enable the foreign companies to attract all those who really sustain the DoT, and then the DoT will also be under pressure. Their margin will reduce further which will affect even the ordinary telephone consumers in the country. So far as the Telecom Policy is concerned, it is going to have an inflationary effect. It is absolutely correct.

Sir, I would like to say another thing. The talk of modernisation, and so on and so forth has been going on in the country. Now the Mirsler has said that he wants to bring a comprehensive Bill about thcTRAl. One would have liked to speak a lot about this, but the Bill through which all these policies ol 1994-95 will take us to the year 2000, was still sought to worked out on the basis ol the Telegraph Act or 1885. It is an Act of 1885. I hope the Minister will come forward with a comprehensive Bill not lo amend but replace the 1885 Act. We are going to the 21st ecntun There are a number of provisions which one would like lo mention including the punitive provisions which are against our Constitution I think this Telecom Policy and the way in which it is being implemented make the whoU

thing dubious. In the interest of transparency, in the long-term national interest and in the light, of the technical capability which we have built in this country "and the excellent performance and need for fair treatment to the ITI and the BEL, I think the entire Telecom Policy needs a review and re-evaluation. Thank you.

श्री एस.एस.अहलूवालिया(बिहार): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय,श्री नीलोत्पल बसु द्वारा गैर सरकारी सदस्यों के कार्यो का जो संकल्प सामने रखा गया हैं उसके बारे में मैं चर्चा करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूं । महोदय,सदन के सामने अभी तक टेलीकॅम पालिसी पर विस्तार रूप में चर्चा नहीं हुई और चर्चा किए बगैर अगर हम इस पालिसी को या पालिसी के आधार पर हो रहे काम को रद्द करने की बात सोचते हैं या संकल्प लाते हैं तो यह दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण हैं । मैं नहीं समझता कभी-कभी उस सदन की कछ बातों को यहां रखना अच्छा नहीं होता पर हमारे ही माननीय साथियों ने वहां पर इस पर एक बिल भी पास कर दिया । यहां पर हरेक राजनीतिक दल के नेता या सदस्य वहां पर लोक सभा के सदस्य हैं। मैं यह नहीं कहना चाहता कि उनके पास करने से हमारा अधिकार छिन जाता हैं,हम उसे रद्द नहीं कर सकते । हम उस पर विचार करते हैं और हम उस पर संशोधन भी लाते हैं और कई वक्त रद्द भी करते हैं । पर एकदम से संकल्प लाकर इसको रद्द करने के बारे में जो भय हमारे मित्र भी बस को हैं उसके तीन मख्य कारण सामने आए हैं। एक उनका हैं कि इस बिल के तहत जो बाहर की पार्टियां आ रही हैं,बाहर की कंपनियां आ रही हैं, उनका जो इक्विटी पार्टीसिपेशन हैं वह सन्तूलित नहीं हैं । दूसरा उन्होंने प्राइस फैक्टर को मद्देनज़र रखा हैं । तीसरा उनका संदेह देश की आंतरिक सुरक्षा पर हैं,जिस पर कि उन्होंने पूरा जोर दिया हैं । वह एक माननीय सदस्य हैं और आतंरिक सुरक्षा पर काफी जानकार हैं और इस सदन में बहस करते हैं ।

महोदय, मैं छोटी सी बात कहता हूं कि इस सदन में हम लोगों ने बहुत सारे चर्चे किए हैं । मैं जरा इस संकल्प से परे हट कर बात करता हूं कि आज दुनिया में सब से ताकतवर अगर कोई चीज़ हैं तो वह सूचना हैं,इन्फर्मेशन हैं । इन्फर्मेशन को पाने के लिए आपको एक ही तंत्र की जरूरत पड़ती हैं उसका नाम हैं संचार, कम्युनिकेशन । बिना कम्युनिकेशन के आपको इन्फर्मेशन मिल ही नहीं सकती और उस कम्युनिकेशन सिस्टम को बढ़ाने के लिए जो सपना हमारे पूर्व पुरूषों ने देखा था या हमारे वर्तमान पुरूष देख रहे हैं।

उस पर ध्यान देने की जरूरत हैं । महोदय, मैं यह उद्वत करना चाहता हूं कि जब-जब हम कोलबंस के बारे में पढते हैं कि वह भारत की खोज में निकला था और अमेरिका पहुंच गया। तो उस का मूल कारण क्या था? उस का कारण सामने आया"लैक आफ इनफॉमेशन और लैक आफ कम्युनिकेशन । " यही कारण हैं कि आज भी एक चौथाई अमेरिका रेड इंडयन के रूप में जाना जाता हैं । उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नहीं चाहता कि हम भारतवासी भी जिन भारतीयों की खोज में कोलंबस निकला था.हम भी कोलबंस बनकर रह जाए । हम आज जबकि सारा विश्व " ग्लोबल विलेज" की बात कर रहा हैं.पता नहीं हम किस जमाने की बात कर रहे हैं? हम तो बात कर रहे हैं जब कि " ओवरहेंड लाइंस लगती थी। और टेलिफोन लगता था, पर वह जमाना गया ।अब तो लोग ओवरहैड लाइंस पर टेलिफोन नहीं चलाते हैं । उस के बाद "अंडरग्राउंड कैबल्स" आ गए हैं और अब तो महोदय "अंडरग्राउंड कैबल्स" भी "ऑब्सिलिट" होने लगे हैं और अब तो एक नया टेलिफोन आ रहा हैं जिसका कि नाम हैं " कैरी योर" टेलिफोन । वह टेलिफोन आने में बहुत दिन नहीं लगेंगे । अगर आप अमेरिका जा रहे हैं तो आप अपना दिल्ली के नंबर का टेलिफोन अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं । अमेरिका से कोई हिंदुस्तान आ रहा हैं तो वह अपने नंबर का टेलिफोन यहां ला सकेगा। वह जमाना आ रहा हैं । सारा विश्व संचार में इतना अग्रसर हो रहा हैं और हम अपने आप को खींचकर पीछे रख लेना चाहते हैं।

महोदया,मैं उन मुद्दों पर नहीं जाना चाहता कि टेलिकॉम पालिसी के तहत जो टेंडर निकाला गया उस में क्या क्लाजेज थे ।अगर कुछ कमी हैं तो उस पर बात की जा सकती हैं, लेकिन पहले एक मुद्दे पर फैसला करने की जरूरत हैं पूरे भारत को और पूरी संसद को कि हमें संचार व्यवस्था में प्रगति चाहिए या नहीं चाहिए ? महोदय यहां मैं अपने एक बड़े गरीब दोस्त की कहानी सुनाना चाहता हूं । मेरा एक सहपाठी था । जोकि बाद में गिफ्ट आयटम्स का काम करने लगा। एक दिन रोते हुए आया तो मैं ने पूछा कि क्या हुआ भाई? कहने लगा कि मैं मद्रास गया था । हमारे भाई ने दिल्ली से टेलिफोन किया । टेलिफोन पर आवाज क्लिअर नहीं थी। उस ने कहा कि 1200 छल्ले यानी" की रिंग्स" ले आना और मुझे सुनायी दिया कि 1200 छल्ले ले आना । तो मैं 1200 क्रिकेट के बैट्स खरीदकर ले आया और वह बल्ले मांग रहे थे। इस तरह मैं तो डुब गया । अब 1200 क्रिकेट के बैटस कहां बेचं ? जिस बैंक से पैसा लिया था, वह मानने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं क्योंकि रायटिंग में ऑर्डर नहीं।

श्री जलालुदीन अंसारी: बहुत अच्छा उदाहरण दे रहे हैं।

**श्री एस.एस.अहलुवालियाः** टेलिफोन पर आवाज साफ सुनायी न देने के कारण गड़बड़ी हो गयी और छल्ले की जगह बल्ले सुन लिया।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Was his brother deaf.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: He was neither deaf nor dumb. He was speaking clearly, but the line was not clear.

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया,इस सदन में कई बार हमाने साथी हनुमनतप्पा जी इन मुद्दों को उठा चुके हैं कि उन्हें चित्रदुर्गा से बंगलौर से ट्रंक बुक करना पड़ता था क्योंकि एस.टी.डी.नहीं था। वह रोज चिल्लाते थे सदन में कि बंगलौर से में जितनी देर में बाई कार पहुंच जाता हूं उतीन देर में मुझे ट्रंक कॉल मिलता हैं । वह इस विषय को रोज उठाते थे । इसी तरह हरेक सदस्य को अच्छी तरह से मालूम हैं कि हमारी टेलिफोन व्यवस्था,हमारी संचार व्यवस्था जो थी उस में और अभी की व्यवस्था में एक बड़ा परिवर्तन हुआ हैं । आज जब हम सड़क से जाते हैं ।

मैं हर वर्ष करीब पन्द्रह हजार किलोमीटर बाई रोड ट्रेवल करता हूं और मैं टेलीफोन के महत्व को समझता हूं । इस टेलीफोन के महत्व को मैंने देखा कि अब चाय की दुकान पर,पान की दुकान पर,लाइन की साइड पर होटल के ढाबे पर,टेलिफोन बूथ और फैक्स मशीनें लगी हुई हैं,जिनके माध्यम से हम अपनी इंफोरमेशन को अपने मालिक तक,अपने सामान के खरीददार तक,अपने परिवार के सदस्यों तक,अपने मित्रों तक कितनी द्रुतगति से पहुंचा सकते हैं । यह एक जीता-जागता उदाहरण हैं ।

महोदय, सुरक्षा के सवाल पर हम हर चीज को रोकने की कोशिश करते हैं । उदाहरण देते हुए उन्होंने बताया कि अमरीका ने यू.एन.के कहने पर जब इराक पर हमला किया तो उस वक्त इराक की पूरी टेली-कम्युनिकेशन सिस्टम को जाम कर दिया । यह तो बड़ा साधारण सा तरीका हैं । अगर आपको किसी देश का,किसी मुल्क का जो सैटलाइट हैं,जिसके माध्यम से सारे प्रसार होते हैं,उस सैटलाइट का कोड नंबर मालूम हो,उसको डिकोड करने के नंबर मालूम हों,डिजिट मालूम हों तो आप भी कर सकते हैं । यह अमरीका क्यों,भारत भी कर सकता हैं । अगर हम इस पर यह विचार करें कि हमारे देश की टैलीकम्युनिकेशन में जो उन्नति होने वाली हैं,वह उन्नति न हो,तो यह दर्भाग्यपूर्ण बात होगी ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय,जो टेलीफोन हम आंखों से देखते

हैं या हमारे घर में टेलीफोन लगा हुआ हैं या जहां टेलीफोन लगा हुआ हैं, उससे हम अपने मित्रों से या अपनी कंस्टीट्यून्सी में बात करते हैं,वही सिर्फ इसका इम्पोर्टेन्ट नहीं हैं। आप देखिए कि एक टेलीफोनआपके यहां लगा हुआ हैं,एक टेलीफोन पुलिस आफिस में लगा हआ हैं, एक टेलीफोन फायर सर्विस आफिस में लगा हुआ हैं,एक टेलीफोन अस्पताल में लगा हुआ हैं,एक टेलीफोन आपका बच्चा जिस स्कूल में पढ़ता हैं वहां लगा हुआ हैं और एक टेलीफोन गांव के एक पोस्ट आफिस में लगा हुआ हैं, उन सबका अपना महत्व हैं। गांवा के पोस्ट आफिस में लगे हुए टेलीफोन पर एक मां, एक बाप अपने बच्चे के साथ जो फोज में काम करता हैं,जो सरहद पर हैं और वहां जो टेलिफोन लगा हुआ हैं उससे वह उसके बारे में खोज खबर कर सकते हैं । टेलिफोन के महत्व से कोई इंकार नहीं कर सकता । इसलिए टेलीफोन के महत्व को जब हमने,जितने हमने रिसोर्सेज हैं,जितनी हमारी ताकत हैं,उसके आधार पर देखा तो लगा कि हम इसको बहुत अच्छी तरह से नहीं चला सके हैं । दिन प्रति दिन इसकी मांग बढती जा रही हैं और मांग सिर्फ जो सबसक्राइबर की हैं वह नहीं हैं बल्कि उसके साथ-साथ मांग हैं जो नए-नए टेलीफोन आ रहे हैं उनकी । आज लोग हैंडफोन लेकर घूम रहे हैं । आप पाकिस्तान की तूलना कर रहे थे कि पाकिस्तान में बहुत प्रयास करने के बाद डिसाइड किया कि वहां पर प्राइवेटाइज नहीं किया जाएगा । उनको मैं बताना चाहता हं कि आप जरा पाकिस्तान के बारे में चर्चा करना चाहते हैं तो आज रात को पी.टीवी देख पी.टीवी का कोई सीरियल,कोई लीजिएगा। फोटाग्राफी या कोई डाक्यूमेंटरी फिल्म ऐसी नहीं होती,जिसमें कि वहां पर चलता हुआ आदमी,चाहे वह मंत्री हो,चाहे वह आफीसर हो,चाहे वह कालेज में पढ़ने वाला लडका हो, हैंडफोन लेकर न चल रहा हो या उसने अपनी बैल्ट के साथ पेजर न बांध रखा हो । आज हमारे लिए यह सपने हैं। मैं नीलोत्पल बसू जी ने यह कहंगा कि अपने विचार बदलें और विचार बदलने के साथ साथ देखें कि अगर हमें उन्नति चाहिए,इन्फोरमेशन चाहिए ....(व्यवधान)...

**एक माननीय सदस्य ः** बदल लिए ।

श्री एस.एस.अहलुवालिया: बदल लिए ? ....(व्यवधान)...तो मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि अपने विचार बदलें क्योंकि इनके मुख्यमंत्री ज्याति बसु जी ने अभी कुछ दिन पहले अपनी कैबिनेट में अपने फायनेन्स मिनिस्टर को खुद कहा कि अपने विचार बदलिए,अपने अंधेरे कमरे से बाहर आइए।

- और जब मल्टी नेशनल्स के साथ या फॉरेन इन्वेस्टर्स के साथ एम.ओ.यू.साइन करने के लिए गए तो 22 एम.ओ.यू.साइन करके आए। उस वक्त उस पर विचार नहीं किया उन्होंने कि,साहब,यहां पार्टिसिपेशन इंडियन इन्वेस्टर्स का कितना होगा,कितना नहीं होगा,जो कंडीशन उन्होंने लगाई हैं,उसी एम.ओ.यू.पर साइन करके आए हैं।

श्री जीवन राय: में भी ज्वाइंट पार्टिसिपेशन कीजिए।

श्री एस.एस.अहलुवालिया: आई नो,आई नो । तो जबर्दस्ती भारत की प्रगति को ब्रेक मत लगाइए । भारत की प्रगति को,भारत की प्रगति के पथ पर चलते हुए भारत के पैरों को बेड़ियों से बांधकर रखने की कोशिश न करें ।

महोदय,मैं उस दिन भी बता रहा था आज फिर बताना चाहता हूं कि हमारे पास जो कम्प्यूटर हैं,उस कम्प्यूटर में मोडम लगा हुआ हैं,वह बेकार हैं अगर हमारे पास टेलीफोन नहीं लगा है। वह मोडम बेकार हैं अगर मेरा दिल्ली का नम्बर और कलकत्ते में मैं मिस्टर बसू से बात करना चाहता हूं थ्रू मोडम में कोई डाटा ट्रांसफर करना चाहता हूं उनकी लाइन अगर हावडा या सिल्किया या दुर्गापुर में हैं,अगर मैं डाटा ट्रांसफर करना चाहता हूं और वह लाइन अगर काप नहीं कर रही तो मैं डाटा ट्रांसफर नहीं कर सकता और अगर से कोई मुझे इन्फारमेशन देना चाहते हैं,वे मेरे पास नहीं पहुंचा सकते। वह कोडम भी तभी काम करेगा जब यहां की संचा व्यवस्था होगी और अच्छी होगी।

अभी हमने पंचायती राज लगाया । पंचायती राज लगाने के साथ-साथ हमने किया कि पहले पैसा जाता था पी.एम.,सी.एम.और फिर डी.एम. को,अब जाएगा सीधा पी.एम.टू डी.एम.और पंचायती राज में पंचायत के सारे काम वहां होंगे । अब हर पंचायत के आदमी को अगर टेलीफोन के माध्यम से दिल्ली सम्पर्क स्थापित करना हैं,वह कैसे करेगा,कहां से करेगा ? लाखों लोग अभी भी वेटिंग लिस्ट में पड़े हुए हैं और हमने अपनी एक बाई 2,000 ए.डी.को फ्यूचरोलॉजी बनाई हुई हैं कि हमारा कम्युनकिशन सिस्टम जो इंडिया का हैं,वह 2,000 ए.डी.कितने तक पहुंचेगा और उस टारगेट तक पहुंचने के लिए जो रिसोर्सिज़ चाहिए वे हमें जटाने पड़ेंगे क्योंकि आप इस दौड़ में हैं । यह नहीं हैं कि यह दौड़ कोई मैराथन दौड़ हैं, इस दौड़ में आप सारी दुनिया के साथ दौड़ रहे हैं लेकिन आप देखिए कि आप नंगे पैर दौड़ रहे हैं और उन्होंने पैरों में स्पाइक्स पहने हुए हैं । उनके पैरों में स्पाइक्स हैं,हमारे

पैर नंगे हैं। हो सकता हैं कि मैं दौड़ में अपनी ताकत से आगे निकलना चाहूं पर उनके स्पाइक्स मेरे पैरों को छेद सकते हैं। तो मेरे को और मजबूत स्पाइक्स पहनकर दौड़ना हैं ताकि हमारा रोड ग्रिप बढ़े और हम वह तभी कर सकते हैं जब हम अपने इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर को ....(व्यवधान)...

श्री महेश्वर सिंह: आप स्केटिंग करना चाहते हैं,अब तो छोटी प्लेट्स भी आ गई हैं।

श्री एस.एस.अहलूवालियाः मैं स्केटिंग नहीं करना चाहता,वह शिमला में आप हैं,आप करेंगे । मैं तो बिहार से हं,मैं स्केटिंग नहीं करूंगा। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय,मेरा कहना यह हैं कि अगर भारत विश्व की दौड में अग्रसर होना चाहता हैं, उस दौड़ में शामिल होना चाहता हैं तो हमें अपने पैरों में बेडियां बांधकर नहीं रखना पडेगा । जैसे घोड़े की आंखों पर ब्लिंकर्स बंधे होते हैं, उसको सिर्फ काली सडक दिखती हैं क्योंकि उसको अगर दाएं या बाएं चरगाह नज़र आ गई तो वह घुम जाएगा घास चरने के लिए, उसको सड़क नज़र आती हैं । तो वह ब्लिंकर्स भी खोलना जरूरी हैं । इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि यह ब्लिकर्स हटाइए,पैरो की बेडियों का तोड़िए और संचार व्यवस्था को अगर मजबूत करना हैं तो हमें इन बातों को दूर करके एक ही मुद्दा रखना पड़ेगा कि Information is power and without communication there is no information. If there is no information you are powerless. If you want to become powerful, you should have better communication. That is India's vision.

# 5.00 p.m.

श्री संघ प्रिय गोतम: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी,मेरे दो सुझाव हैं एक तो यह कि यह बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण संकल्प हैं और पहले भी ....(व्यवधान) मैं यह नहीं कह रहा हूं,मैं और बात कह रहा हूं । मैं यह कह रहा हूं कि अभी दो महत्वपूर्ण विषय और हैं। एक हैं शॉर्ट डूरेशन डिस्कशन । अगर इसको कंटीन्यू करना हैं तो इसको यहीं पर छोड़गें।....(व्यवधान)

THE 'VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.

# NARAYANASAMY): I know that. Mr.

### Naresh Yadav.

श्री नरेश यादव(बिहार): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय,मैं श्री बसु द्वारा जो गैर सरकारी संकल्प लाया गया हैं उसका समर्थन करता हूं और समर्थन करते हुए यह कहना चाहता हूं कि अभी हमारे विद्वान साथी ने कहा कि अगर हमें विकास के दौर में जाना हैं तो सरकार के द्वारा जो दूरसंचार नीति दी गई हैं,उसको मानना होगा। विकास के बारे में सरकार का ध्यान और संचार मंत्री का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं कि अभी तक मात्र 24 परसेंट गांव में अपने रिकार्ड के हिसाब से आप टेलीफोन कनेक्शन दे सके हैं 176 परसेंट गांवों में आप कनेक्शन नहीं दे सके हैं । और जहां कनेक्शन दिए हैं तो वहां क्या हाल हैं,वह मैं बतलाता हूं । इनर लॉबी में अगर आप अपने घर बात कर रहे हैं तो पार्लियामेंट में क्या प्रोसिडिंग चल रही हैं,तो आसानी से आप उसको सुन सकते हैं । यह प्रगति हैं आपकी । माननीय मंत्री जी,प्रगति यह हैं कि मेरे जैसा आदमी गांव का रहने वाला आज तक मेबर आफ पार्लियामेंट बनने के बाद दूरभाष्य की सेवाएं तो हैं लेकिन गांव में आज तक बात नहीं कर सका हूं । यह प्रगति आपकी हैं,आपके दूरसंचार हैं

**श्री संघ प्रिय गौतमः** अहलुवालिया जी,सुन लीजिए,बिहार का ही हैं।

श्री एस.एस.अहलुवालियाः सुन लिया । नहीं-नहीं,वह सही कह रहे हैं । हमें तो गांवों में छः लाख कनेक्शन ले जाने हैं । अभी 24 परसेंट गांवा में हैं । ....(व्यवधान)यह मेरे घर के पड़ौसी हैं । (व्यवधान) बहुत दूर में रहते हैं ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री वी.नारायणसामी): आप बैठ जाइए ।

श्री नरेश यादवः मैं कुछ खास-खास बिन्दुओं की तरफ ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं। जैसा श्री बसु ने कहा है कि दूरसंचार नीति को बदलना चाहिए, उसे हटा देना चाहिए, तो उसके पीछे कारण क्या हैं? आपकी दूरसंचार नीति में गांव की चर्चा कहीं नहीं हैं। गांव की घोर उपेक्षा की गई हैं। कितने क्षेत्रों में अभी तक टेलीफोन को पहुंचाया जा सका हैं। जहां तक कि हम लोग भी जो मेंबर आफ पार्लियामेंट प्रायोरिटी बेसिस पर टेलीफोन कनेक्शन देते हैं,वह भी 5-5,6-6 महीने तक टेलीफोन नहीं पहुंच पाता हैं,नहीं मुहैया कराया जाता हैं । तो यह हाल हैं दूरसंचार का।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय,अब मैं बतलाना चाहता हूं आपको कि क्या दुर्दशा हैं । अभी हिन्दुस्तान में अधिकांश थानों को टेलीफान की सुविधा उपलब्ध कराई नहीं गई हैं,जिससे लोग थानों में पहुंच सकें और अगर कोई भी लॉ एंड आर्डर की समस्या हो तो थाने को सृजित कर सकें । अगर दी गई हैं तो एक चीज दी गई हैं,वह यह कि सरकार ने फ्रीडम फाइटरर्स को प्राथमिकता पर टेलीफोन की सुविधा उपलब्ध कराई हैं । आज जो दुर्दशा फीडम फाइटर की हैं,वह मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूं ,बेचारे वह क्या जाने अमेरिका और इंग्लैंड की बात । माननीय मंत्री महोदय, लेकिन आप देखेंगे,लाईन मेन को पटाइए और देश-विदेश

में बात करिए ।यह हिन्दुस्तान में निकला हुआ हैं । बेचारे नरसिंम मंडम जी ने कहा कि जब देश गूलाम था ऐसा कभी नहीं होता था,जबकि आज यह होता हैं कि सिर्फ लाईन मेन को पटाइए और देश-विदेश की सेंवाए तरन्त ले लीजिए । कोई अंतर नहीं हैं । इस तरह से देश में टेलीफोन की सेवाए । चल रही हैं । इसलिए इसके लिए कोई ठोस निर्णय करना पडेगा कि क्या करना चाहते हैं । सिर्फ यह नहीं कि फॉरेन इंवेस्टर को बुला लो,विदेशियों को बुला लो । तो अजीब बात हैं विदेशियों को बुलाने के बारे में फॉरेन इंवेस्टमेंट के बारे में । तो मुझकों यह लगा किएक दिन ऐसा आएगा जब विदेशों के आदमियों को हिन्दुस्तान में बुला लिया जाएगा । यह दर्भाग्य हैं,जिस देश को अपने में स्वाभिमान न हो हम यह जानना चाहते हैं कि यह ठीक हैं कि विदेशों मेंजो विकास हो रहा हैं उसकी जानकारी चाहिए । लेकिन देश को गिरवी रखदो, यह नहीं होना चाहिए । यह बात भी बिलकुल साफ हैं इसलिए मैं बसु जी के इस संकल्प का समर्थन करते हुए, उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय,आपके माध्यम से संचार मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूं कि निश्चित तौर से इसमें परिवर्तन की जरूरत हैं और एक सुझाव देना चाहता हूं जिस तरह से घर-घर में बिजली के कनेक्शन के लिए आप मीटर लगा देते हैं,ऐसा कोई रास्ता बनाइए जिससे कि जब टेलीफोन कनेक्शन देते हैं तो लोकल ऐक्सचेंज में तो कमसे कम मीटर लगा दीजिए जिससे लोग पकड सकें कि मैंने यहां टेलीफोन किया,इतना मीटर आया ताकि लोग प्रोत्साहित हो सकें । ऐसी कोई नीति लाइए जिससे कि लोगों का कल्याण हो सके अन्यथा टेलीफोन की नीति आपकी बेकार चली जाएगी । इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं बसू जी के द्वारा लाए गए संकल्प का समर्थन करता हूं । बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद

SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-chairman, I will not take much time because I know there are only two or three minutes left. But I would like to pose some questions to the Minister. In the tender document it was stipulated that the bidder must be an Indian registered company but not a Government company. What is the logic behind this? Why is the Government company not allowed to make a bidding? Sir, I had gone to m recently. There what I saw was, 600 workers were sitting there idle because there were no orders. DoT had asked ITI to expand the capacity. They expanded the capacity and now they are starved of orders and that company which was in profit, now it is in loss. Are we

going to treat the public sector company like this? Then again it was clarified on 27th May that it is not a case of clarification. Once you debarred it from the very first day and then you gave clarifications from the very first day that if they came through some Indian company, then you would allow. Why can't they do it themselves? Why? What are the reasons? Please explain it to us. I am not convinced about this. Our policy is for competition and you want the public sector to be stopped from being in competition. You want that it should be with some other Indian company and through them they should come. I think this is not the policy of the Government. I think this is totally opposed to Government policy. You talk of market economy. Whether we like it or not, it is a policy and till it is not changed how can you say that public sector companies should not be allowed to make a bidding. I would like to ask this question. And this company has always been in profit. It has served our defence. It has served out nation. Why are BEL and ITI are debarred? I want this answer to be given. I do not want anything else. I want to make it very clear. As far as telecommunications is concerned, power is concerned, petrol is concerned, I do not mind foreign participation. But there should be a level playing field. The public sector should not be denied its rights. I think even preference should be given to the public sector. I do not think this is the policy of the Government. I would like the Minister to look into it again and whatever distortions are there, it must be removed so that the misunderstanding which is there in the minds of the people like me is removed because I had discussed with the ITI as I was the convenor of a group of public sector undertakings. Recently two months back, we had gone there. Your Joint Secretary of Telecom Department was also present. We have seen everything. We have seen that type of defence and research work they are doing. We should encourage such companies. If you are describing them, I think that will be a bad thing for the public sector. I hope the Government will take this into account and modify the policy so that the public sector also should be allowed to play its role. I am not going to support the resolution. I have given my views and I hope the Government will consider this. The replies should be given to the queries that

I have raised and the Government should find out whether the DoT had asked them to deal with it or not. The ITI was always under the domain of the DoT and DoT asked them to expand the capacity and now they are starved of orders and you are importing even the equipment from abroad which is being manufactured by the ITI. It is available in rupee currency. The workers are working. They should not be deprived of their jobs. About 600 workers are sitting idle. I asked them why they were sitting idle. They said that they did not have any work because there were no orders. They say, "We have no orders." They sign the roll, and in the evening they go back. If that is the situation, the public sector is bound to go sick. And if you want to avoid that sickness, then you have to remedy these ills.

With these words,. Sir, I would like the hon. Minister to reply to my questions.

SHRI SATFSH AGARWAL: Mr.,Vicc-Chairman, Sir, there is a Short Duration Discussion.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): We have three minutes more. We have time up to S.13.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Sir, this is a^very important issue. Normally, the practice in the House is that a Private Member's Resolution is not carried forward to the next session....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): We have to conclude this discussion by S.13 p.m. Now, it is S.10. So, kindly, don't be in a hurry.

श्री महेश्वर सिंह : यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विषय हैं यह एक मिनट में समाप्त होने वाला नहीं है इसलिए मेरा निवेदन हैं कि इसको आगे बढा दिया जाए। (व्यवधान)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): I will hear you only at 5.13.

Shri Ish Dutt Yadav.

श्री ईश दत्त यादव(उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय,श्री नीलोत्पल बसु ने जिस संसकल्प को प्रस्तुत किया हैं नई संचार नीति के बारे में,मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूं । यद्यपि इन्होंने दूर-संचार नीति के कुछ अंश का ही विराम किया हैं जैसा कि संकल्प को पढ़ने से लगता हैं लेकिन में पूरी दूर संचार नीति जो नई हैं इसके पक्ष में नहीं हूं । करीब चार साल से अधिक हो गये नई आर्थिक नीति, नई शिक्षा नीति,नई दवा नीति और तमाम तरह की नई

• नीतियों को और इसी तरह की दूर संचार नीति हैं। इन सब में मुझे कोई अंतर नज़र नहीं आता। श्री नरेश यादव जी ठीक कह रहे थे मैं उनका समर्थन करता हं कि यदि इनकी नीति से टेलीफोन सेवा में कोई परिवर्तन हो गया हो या कोई परिवर्तन होने की संभावना हो तब तो मैं इसका स्वागत कर सकता हूं। मई,94 में नई नीति की घोषण हुई । एक साल से अधिक हो गया लेकिन इसमें क्या परिवर्तन हुआ ? अहलवालिया जी ने एक किस्सा सनाया मैं भी सनना चाहता हूं । जिस तरह से बिजनैस में सामान वही रहता हैं मॉडल बदल जाता हैं और फिर उससे आकर्षण बढ़ जाता हैं इसी तरह से यह हैं । अम्बेडकर कार ले लीजिए । कहीं स्टियरिंग बदल दिया, कहीं गीयर बदल दिया,कहीं कुछ चेंज कर दिया,उसको आकर्षक बना दिया तो यह नये तरह की कार हो गई। टेलिफोन को पहले हम उंगली से घुमाते थे, अब पुशबटन वाला टेलीफोन आ गया,फिर री-डॉयल वाला आ गया। इस तरह से केवल मॉडल बदल जाते हैं काम में कोई परिवर्तन नहीं आता । देश में टेलीफोन सेवा में कोई सुधार नहीं हुआ । मैं आपको एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूं कि किस तरह से सरकार आकर्षित करना चाहती हैं नई नीति से ।एक साहब बाजार से दौडते हए अपने घर जा रहे थे। रास्ते में उनके दोस्त ने उनसे कहा, जरा बात सूनते जाओ । उसने कहा अभी नहीं, तूम रूके रहो, घर से अभी वापस आ रहा हूं। जब घर से वापस लौट कर आया तो उसने कहा मैं इस लिए तेजी से भाग रहा था कि मैंने मार्किट से अपनी पत्नी के लिए ब्लाउज खरीदा था और जल्दी में देने जा रहा था कि कहीं मार्किट में नये डिजाइन का ब्लाउज आ गया तो यह रिजेक्ट हो जायेगा । यह सरकार की नई नीति हैं ।

TOE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Your time is over. Please take your seat.

श्री ईश दत्त यादवः अभी तो में मूल विषय पर आया ही नहीं....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): The time for the Private Members' Business is over.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Rajasthan): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I have a request. According to Rule 16S, when a Resolution has been moved, no Resolution or amendment raising substantially the same question shall be moved within one year from the date of the moving of the earlier Resolution.

This is an embargo. Therefore, I suggest that rule 165 may be relaxed in this case and the

House may give consent for continuing the discussion on this Resolution in the next Session of the House. I am suggesting this because the discussion has not been completed. Then the Minister has to intervene. Then the mover of the Resolution has to reply. Some other Members also would like to speak on this. As you know, this is a very important issue. Therefore, I would request you. I hope your goodself would agree to it. I hope the House would agree to it that the discussion should be stopped here and it should be continued in the next Session of the House, whenever it takes place.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: I agree. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir,....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHIR V. NARAYANASAMY): Dr. Dasgupta, I have to reply to the point raised by the hon. Member, Kindly take your seat. (.Interruptions)

SHIR SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Sir, the discussion should be continued now and completed. (*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Kindly sit down. The point which the hon. Member, Mr. Satish Agarwal, has raised is ....

श्री ईश दत्त यादवः महोदय,मेरा एक अनुरोध हैं । अग्रवाल जी की बात का मैं समर्थन करता हूं और मैं आपसे अनुरोध करता हूं कि अगर सदन की राय से इस विषय पर अगले सेशन में चर्चा होगी तो मेरे बोलने का अधिकार सुरक्षित रखा जाए क्योंकि मेरी बात अधूरी रह गयी हैं ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Mr. Yadav, you have got your own interest in this.

श्री एस.एस.अहलुवालियाः उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा यह कहना हैं कि हम इससे एक नयी परम्परा को जन्म दे रहे हैं।

श्री महेश्वर सिंह: यह प्रथा रही हैं।

श्री एस.एस.अहलुवालियाः मेरी बात सुन लीजिए । हमारा राइट आप छीन रहे हैं । रेजोल्यूशन जो हैं इसके लिए बायकादा बैलेट होता हैं और लारी में जिसका नाम निकलता हैं उसको पहला स्थान मिलता हैं । एक आदमी को दो बार मौका नहीं मिलता हैं चाहे वह कितना ही इम्पार्टेन्ट इश्यू क्यों न हो । आज तक किसी को दुबारा मौका नहीं मिला हैं । मैंने राइट टु वूमैन के लिए इसी तरह आग्रह किया था लेकिन मुझे चांस नहीं मिला । मैं नहीं समझता कि इसे नेक्स्ट सेशन में डिसकस किया जा सकता हैं । इसका अंत आज ही होना चाहिए ।

श्री नीतात्पल बसू: जहां तक प्रेसीडेंट्स का सवाल हैं,अहलेवालिया जी की मेमोरी थोड़ी फेर कर रही हैं। इसी सदन में श्री वारेन जे.शाह का रेजाल्युशन,महिलाओं पर अत्याचार देट वाज कैरीड ओवर टू दि नैक्स्ट सेशन । दि प्वाइंट इज यह एक महत्वपूर्ण सवाल हैं । एक साल होने के बावजूद भी इस विषय पर सदन में चर्चा करने का कोई मौका नहीं आया । प्राइवेट मेंबर रेजोल्यूशन के ऊपर कम से कम मेंबर्स को बोलने का मौका मिला हैं। जैसे अहलुवालिया जी का राइट हैं,अगले सत्र में बैलेट पर पहले नंबर पर होने का,उनके साथ साथ मुझे भी यह राइट मिलना चाहिए मिनिस्टर को सुनने का और उनको जवाब देने का। इसलिए तो प्राविजन सतीश अग्रवाल जी ने कोट किया हैं, उसका इस्तेमाल करते हुए-इसके लिए हाउस के सामने प्रेसींडेंट्स भी हैं- मैं चाहता हूं कि सेंस आफ हाउस लेकर इसको अगले सत्र के लिए बढाया जाए ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Now, there are two points here. The point made by Mr. Satish Agarwal is that this should be carried over to the next Session. The other view expressed by the hon. Member, Mr. Ahluwalia, is that the other Members who would be getting their opportunity in the ballot would be losing their right. Therefore, I leave it to the sense of the House to decide. If the House decides, we will have to go by the decision of the House. The point is whether the House wants that this Resolution should be carried over to the next Session.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes. (Interruptions).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No. (Interruptions).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): There is a difference of opinion. Then, we will have to go for voting. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN: Sir, 1 have got a suggestion. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA (ASSAM): Sir, I want to make a point. (*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Kindly take your seat, Mr. Chaliha. (Interruptions)

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: The Minister can

wait. But I have been waiting for the last fourteen days. (Interruptions)

Sir, only an hour back, we had a long discussion with the Deputy Chairman.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Kindly take your seat.

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: We have to take up Special Mentions.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): You will get your chance. Kindly take your seat.

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Why can't others take their seats?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Kindly take your seat. We will be taking up Special Mentions. (Interruptions)

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: the North-East is always neglected. (*Interruptions*)

We are not allowed to speak about our grievances.

We are not allowed to speak about our difficulties.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (Shri V. Narayanaswamy): Please sit down. Kindly do not make such allegations.

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: I repeat it, with all the force at my command.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): You can repeat it if you want. I do not want to say anything. Kindly take your seat.

You have to wait foT your turn. Yes, Mr. Kiruttinan.

SHRI PAUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN: Regarding the Telecom Policy, if the hon. Minister assures this House that he will bring a Resolution next time, we can have a discussion.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): I can't compel the Minister. I want to take the sense of the House. What is the sense of the House?

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: It should be carried over. After all, we have not discussed the Telecom Policy at all.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): If the House agrees, we will take it up next time. Otherwise not. What is the sense of the House?

# SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): The sense of the House is that the Resolution should be carried over to the next session.

श्री ईश दत्त यादवः उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय,मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न हैं। हमारी स्पीच कांटीन्युड रहे,इस पर अपनी व्यवस्था दे दें।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): That will be considered on that day, not now.

### MESSAGES FROM THE LOK SABHA

- (I) The Textile Undertakings (National-sation) Bill, 1995.
- (II) The Sick Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 1995.

SECRETARY-GENERAL: sir I have to report to the House the following messages received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary of the Lok Sabha:

### (I)

In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Bill, 1995, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 24th August, 1995."

#### (ID

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Sick Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill. 1995, as passed by Lok Sabha at its silting held on the 24th August, 1995."

Sir I lay a copy of each of ihe Bills on the Table.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Mr. Satish Agarwal wants to say something.

श्री नारायण प्रसाद गुप्ताः जैसे कि पहले तय हो चुका हैं,मैं आपसे अनुरोध करता हूं कि स्पेशल मेंशन ले लीजिये। THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Mr. Agarwal wants to say something.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (RAJASTHAN): Sir, a Short Duration Discussion was to taken up at 5 p.m. It stands in my name and two other Members, hon. Shri Mohammed Afzal and prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra. It is true that in the Deputy Chairperson's chamber, Members who have given notice of Special Mentii is-the list is long and they are waiting for long-made a request to the hon. Deputy Chairperson in my presence. So, the direction or the suggestion was that my motion for discussion will be taken up tomorrow at 11 o'clock and that they may be permitted to make their Special Mentions, if the House agrees. I will forgo my chance today, provided my motion is taken up tomorrow at II o'clock. .. (Interruptions) ...

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (WEST BENGAL): Sir, before we look up the Private Member's Resolution, we were having a discussion on the whole question of the Rajiv Gandhi murder case and the Jain Commission. Now, an announcement was made by Mr Matang Sinh that Mr. Chidambaram will come at about five o'clock and make a statement Now may we know when the statement is going to be made?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V NARAYANASAMY): Special Mentions nosv

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: At wh.u *lime'!...(Interruptions)..* 

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Only a reply.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: When?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Kindly lake your scat. Without your taking your seat, how can I tell you? The Government has not indicated the time so far. As soon as it is indicated, I will inform you. It is going to be today. That is what I know. Let the Minister come. Without the Minister being present, I can't say anything.

SHRI J1BON ROY: Sir, in the morning I raised the issue of killing of coal miners.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V NARAYANASAMY): No, we arc not opening any Zero Hour now.

SHRI JIBON ROY: Madam has assured that the Minister will make a statement.

SHRI MD. SALIM (WEST BENGAL): A statement was made in the other Houve. Let him come and make a statement. Since