

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN Sir, the Department levies Rs. 330 as rental charges on telephones. Now, the Department asks for security deposits without interest; the Department asks for installation charges and the Department asks for per-call charges. Then, what are these rental charges for? And, under the new policy, if I purchase my own instrument, will I be exempt, as a customer, from the monthly rental charges? So, I would like to know what the rationale is behind imposing rental charges when I am paying the rent

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU The installation charges are one time charges. They are charged only at the time of installation of me telephone as financial cost of telephone wiring and other things. The security deposit is initially to register the demand and subsequently it is kept as deposit against payment of bills in future so that, if the subscriber fails to pay, the security deposit can be forfeited. The rental charges are not purely rental, but they are also giving 150 calls free during a period of two months

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: They are not free. If they are against my rental charges, then do not call them free charges. You are charging me for them. You are charging Rs. 330 for my calls. If it is not rent; then you are charging for all my calls. They are not free calls. If you call free calls, then give me free. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sir, then should be a hot-line between the Minister and the Official Gallery.

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Sir, the rental includes 150 free calls. 150 free calls is a component of the rental.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : What is the other component other than the 150 calls. What is the other component for which you are charging? I should know that as a customer. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: It is there from the beginning. I can give the philosophy or the reason behind the rental charges. (*Interruptions*). On an average every telephone line given costs Rs. 40,000 to the Government So, the rental is a part of . . .

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Then you say installation charge of my telephone connection is Rs. 40,000. You cannot call it a rental charge.

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : O. K. We will change the nomenclature.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Sir, this is a solemn promise, because we have filed a case in the court against the Department on this point. These rental charges are a fraud. You are not giving any service against these rental charges. So, no rental charges should be taken from the customers. Charge of Rs. 330 against 150 free call is a fraud on the customer. The Department is collecting this amount for nothing. For the rest of the services we are paying at every point

SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: It is a question of scrapping the whole amount

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do you want to answer ? Fortunately, you have the Minister in charge before you.

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: As the member has said, the matter is pending in the court; let us await the judgment.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, Pramod has been ringing the wrong number. He is not the Minister.

Setting up of Fifth Pay Commission

504 SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA
SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Union Government has announced the setting up of the Fifth Pay Commission for the Central Government employees and its pensioners;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of its Chairman and Members and its terms of reference; and

(c) by when the commission is likely to submit its report and recommendations to Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE: (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The composition and terms of reference of the Film Pay Commiuiou are contained in Department of Expenditure Resolution No. 5(12)EJJ/93 dated 9th April, 1994. copies of which are available in the Library of the Parliament House.

(c) The Pay Commission is required to submit its recommendations as soon as feasible.

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Sir. I am on a point of order.

MR CHAIRMAN: No point of order. Please ask your supplementary.

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Then. Sir. on a point of information . . .

MR CHAIRMAN : Are you asking your question, or . . .

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Sir. I am not able to ask supplementaries on the answer given by the hon. Minister for the simple reason that he has said that the copies of the Resolution are available in the Library of the Parliament House.

श्रीमती सुवर्णा स्वराज : क्या देने का यह भी कोई तरीका है कि लाइब्रेरी में जाकर देखिये।

Sir, this is no way.

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: That means I have to go to the Library to read the Resolution and then come back to ask the supplementary.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Mr. Chairman. Sir, is this the way the Minister should answer « question?

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK. For this. Sir. I have to go to the Library and read it

DR „ SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Sir. please give him time to go to the Library. (*Intemptions*)

The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Govind Adik.

MR CHAIRMAN: Now. I am sure the Minister can give the substance of that It is in the Library. But you can give what the composition is. (*Interruptions*) Please do sit down. The Minister has said that the record is in the Lib-rary. But I don't think there is any harm in giving the composition of this. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Let the question be postponed. Sir.

MR CHAIRMAN The Minister is answering.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: He says that you can go to the Library . . . (*Inter-ruptions*).

SHRI DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI: Sir. the answer is for the people of this country and not only for the individual member. (*Inter-ruptions*).

MR CHAIRMAN: The Minister is going to answer.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY: Sir, the Government has already decided to set up the Fifth Pay Commission and a copy of the Resolution by the Department of Expenditure is already provided in the Library for the Members' use. And also. Sir. . .

AN HON. MEMBER: What is this?

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY: about the constitution of the Commission, I would like to say that the Chairman of the Commission is Mr. Justice S. R. Pandian; Prof. Suresh Tendulkar—Member, and Member-Secretary is Mr. M. K Kaw.

MR CHAIRMAN: Please ask your supplementary.

AN HON. MEMBER: Let the question be postponed Sir.

DR MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir. if we want to know this, if at 10 o'clock on a particular day, the Minister says that this is placed in the Library, this is something very serious. . .

MR CHAIRMAN: Now he has given the answer.

DR. MURU MANOHAR JOSHI: It cannot be, Sir. . .

MR CHAIRMAN: The Minister is now giving the answer. What AM composition is, who the Chairman is, he has given that answer. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY: Sir if you kindly permit me. . . *(Interruptions)*.

MR CHAIRMAN: There is no harm in the Minister reporting a fact that it is in the Library. *(Interruptions)*, if you want to add further, you can add. *(Interruptions)* Please listen to him.

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Sir. I am asking a supplementary.

MR CHAIRMAN: The Minister is answering your question.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY: Sir, if you kindly permit me *(Interruptions)*. . . I am prepared to lay a copy of the Notification on the Table of the House.

MR CHAIRMAN: Yes, please. You may. Please ask your supplementary. *(Interruptions)*.

श्री एच. एच. चन्द्रशेखर : सभापति जी, यह बहुत दुर्भाग्य की बात है। जो भी संघस्था सदन में लाया है वह किसी काम के सदस्य का संकलन नहीं होता, वह पूरे सदन का संकलन होता है। मैंने भी का ऐसा बजाव देना कि लाइब्रेरी में बजाव पड़ ले, यह बहुत गलत है।

SHRI AJIT P. K JOGI: . . this goes against the House, and you have ruled that such answers would not be accepted. *(Interruptions)*.

MR CHAIRMAN: Please ask the supplementary.

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Sir. I would like to know from the Minister whether this Fifth Pay Commission has been allotted office premises which are adequate enough to carry on their work efficiently and whether the Government proposes to appoint a Member representing the trade unions and staff associations. This is my first . . .

MR CHAIRMAN: Supplementary.

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: . . . Suoolementary.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY: Sir, about the accommodation of this Fifth Pay Commission and the consolidated expenses; it is being worked out in the Department And regarding the Labour representative in the Communism. the staff side has demanded that there should be a Labour representative in the Pay Commission. Sir, it is not possible to represent every interest in the Commission and, therefore, no Labour representative has been included so far in the Committee.

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Sir. my second supplementary is this. While giving reply to part (c) of the question, it is said that the Commission is asked to submit its recommendations as soon as feasible. Sir, it is very difficult to understand what is meant by "as soon as feasible". But before that, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this Pay Commission has been given any power to announce the interim relief because we do not know when this commission is going to submit its report But at least some interim relief can be granted. I want to know whether this Commission is given power to announce the interim relief.

Secondly, I would also like to know whether the Commission has been advised to find out ways to remove anomalies which are already there in the existing pay scales.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY: Sir, as you are aware, the Pay Commission is a high-powered body, and it is not customary for the Government to direct the Commissions by fixing any time limit Even in earlier cases also, we did not fix any time limit but the Government has made a request to the Commission to expedite its report

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: What about the interim relief? He asked about the interim relief. Government should say 'yes' or 'no'. They are evading the written answer and also the supplementary question now.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY: The Central Government have already decided for payment of Rs. 100 per month to all the Government employees and

†{ } Transliteration in Arabic Script.

State Cavemments, it is for the State Governments to look after the constitution of the Pay Commissions. The Government has already decided about the terms of reference and the Government does not propose to amend the terms of reference any further for this 5th Pay Commission.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : सम्प्रति मन्त्रय, इंटेरिम रिजर्व की बात हुई है सेटल गवर्नमेंट के रजिस्ट्रार की बात कलाई नहीं कि सेटल गवर्नमेंट किठना इंटेरिम रिजर्व देने की योजना कर रही है ? स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की कल दिना (स्वयंमान) श्री.ए. मर्ज करेगे या नहीं करेगे, लायने सेटल गवर्नमेंट इम्प्लेमेंट के लिए इंटेरिम रिजर्व देने के लिए क्या योजना है ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): Before the Pay Commission was set up, there were extensive discussions with the employees in the JCM and it was agreed that interim relief should be sanctioned at the rate of Rs. 100 per month to all Central Government employees. It was also agreed that there should be a merger of DA with pay to the extent of 20 per cent for calculation of death-cum-retirement gratuity, and it is not our intention to offer anything further.

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR
From which date is it going to be effective?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: It has already been implemented with effect from 16th of September, 1993.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Since the recommendations of the Pay Commission would have a bearing on the State Governments, insofar as the demands that would be raised by the employees of the State Governments and other State-level bodies are concerned, what is the rationale behind the Government not extending monetary support to the State Governments to fulfil the demands of their employees ?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, before the setting up of the Pay Commission, through the mechanism of the National Development Council, the Central Government tried its very best to get the State Governments agree. But I am sorry to say that some of the State Governments refused to play ball and that is why the Central Government had to appoint a Pay Commission of its own.

3—27 RSS/95

MR CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Electronic News Gathering Unit of Doordarshan

*505. SHRIMATI ILA PANDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to work out modalities for Electronic News-Gathering unit of Doordarshan to work in close collaboration with the State Governments so that the credit is given to materials fed by the State Governments; and

(b) whether Government also propose to increase Electronic News Gathering (ENG) units of Doordarshan in Orissa for more comprehensive coverage, in view of the fact that the commissioning of Satellite link regional service is reaching more than 87 per cent of the population in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO):
(a) The Doordarshan Kendras in different states already maintain close liaison with the state governments

(b) Yes, Sir.

Restructuring of Department of Telecommunications

* 506. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL :
SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA
ABHINANDAN JAIN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision to restructure the department of Telecommunications;

(b) if so, whether any policy decision has also been taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?