

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 the 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, there 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 calls 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 Fifth Pay Commission are contained in Department of Expenditure Resolution No. 5(12)E.III/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 सुषमा स्वराज: जवाब 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 a 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. *(Interruptions)*.

†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 Library. 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 . . . *(Interruptions)*.

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

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. Pandeyan; 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. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : It cannot be, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister is now giving the answer. What the 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 एस. एस. लक्ष्मणस्वामिनाथ : समापति जी, यह बहुत दुर्भाग्य की बात है। जो भी सवाल सदन में आता है वह किसी खास सदस्य का सवाल नहीं होता, वह पूरे सदन का सवाल होता है। मैंने जी का ऐसा जवाब देना कि लाइब्रेरी में जवाब पढ़ लें, 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 : . . . Supplementary.

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 Commission, 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

for merger of dearness allowance with pay to the extent of 20 per cent for calculating death-cum-retirement gratuity.

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम : सम्प्रति महोदय, जिस तरह से हमारी आर्थिक अवस्था को हार्ड कास्ट इकोनमी के साथ लिबरलाइजेशन के नाम पर जोड़ा जा रहा है और महंगाई विन-प्रति-विन बढ़ रही है, पहले भी बढ़ रही थी और अब भी बढ़ रही है, इसके लिए आवश्यक था कि वे कमिशन बैठें और इस स्थिति को रिव्यू करने के बाद यह रिपोर्ट दें कि किस तरह से सरकारी कर्मचारियों की तनखा में बढ़ोतरी हो। सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट की यह जिम्मेदारी है कि वह आर्थिक नीति ठीक करे इस दिशा में इनफ्लेशन को कंट्रोल करने की भी जिम्मेदारी उनकी है। सरकारी कर्मचारियों के लिए यह वे कमिशन बैठें और बढ़ती हुई महंगाई और हालत को देखते हुए उसकी रिपोर्ट आएगी और सरकार उसको मान लेगी। इंटरिम रिलीफ के बारे में बात की गई है, लेकिन जो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स के इम्प्लाइज हैं, यूनीवर्सिटीज और कालेज के इम्प्लाइज हैं, आटोनोमस बॉडीज के इम्प्लाइज हैं, म्युनिसिपैलिटीज के कर्मचारी हैं, उनकी हालत भी उसी तरह से हो रही है जैसे सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट इम्प्लाइज की हो रही है। यह सब उसी कारण से हो रहा है जिन कारणों से वे कमिशन बैठाय गया है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट यह भी जिम्मेदारी लेगी कि वे कमिशन की रिपोर्ट के आने के बाद जो सहायियों सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट इम्प्लाइज को मिलेंगी उसी तरह से सहायियों कारपोरेट बॉडीज, कारपोरेशन, म्युनिसिपैलिटीज और पंचायतों के कर्मचारियों को भी मिलें ? क्या सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट इस रिपोर्ट को तमाम यूनीवर्सिटीज, कालेज और आटोनोमस बॉडीज के कर्मचारियों के लिए लागू करवाने में सहायता करेगी।

श्री محمد سلیم : سبھا پتی مہودے۔ جس طرح سے ہماری آرٹھک اوسٹھاکو ہائی کاسٹ اکنامی کے ساتھ لبرلائزیشن کے نام پر جوڑا جا رہا ہے اور مہنگائی دن پرتی دن بڑھ رہی ہے۔ پہلے

جا بڑھ رہی تھی اور اب بھی بڑھ رہی ہے۔ اس کے لیے آؤٹھک عطا کرے کیشن بیٹھے اور اس اسٹھمی کو ریلو کرنے کے بعد وہ پھٹ دے کہ کس طرح سے سرکاری کرجاریوں کی تنخواہ

میں بڑھوتری ہو۔ سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کی یہ ذمہ داری ہے کہ وہ آرٹھک نیٹی ٹھیک کرے اور انفلیشن کو کنٹرول کرنے کی بھی ان کی ذمہ داری ہے۔ سرکاری کرجاریوں کے لیے یہ بے کیشن بیٹھا ہے اور بڑھتی ہوئی مہنگائی اور حالات کو دیکھتے ہوئے اس کی رپورٹ آئے گی اور سرکار اس کو مان لے گی۔ انٹرم ریلیف کے بارے میں بات کی گئی ہے لیکن جو اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹ کے امپلائز ہیں۔ یونیورسٹیز اور کالج کے امپلائز ہیں۔ آؤٹانامس باڈیز کے امپلائز ہیں۔ میونسپلٹی کے کرجاریوں میں ان کی حالت بھی اسی طرح سے ہو رہی ہے۔ جیسے سنٹرل گورنمنٹ امپلائز کی ہو رہی ہے۔ یہ سب اسی کارن سے ہو رہا ہے جن کارنوں سے بے کیشن بیٹھا گیا ہے میں یہ جانتا چاہتا ہوں کہ کیا سنٹرل گورنمنٹ یہ بھی ذمہ داری لے گی کہ بے کیشن کی رپورٹ کے آنے کے بعد جو سہولتیں گورنمنٹ امپلائز کو ملیں گی۔ اسی طرح سے سہولتیں کارپوریٹ باڈیز۔ کارپوریشنس۔ میونسپلٹی اور پنچایت کرجاریوں کو بھی ملیں۔ کیا سنٹرل گورنمنٹ اس رپورٹ کو تمام یونیورسٹیز۔ کالجز۔ اور آؤٹانامس باڈیز کے کرجاریوں کے لیے لاگو کر دے گی۔ میں سبھا پتی کرے گی۔

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY: With regard to the employees of the

State Governments, it is for the State Governments to look after the constitution of the Pay Commission. 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 मन्त्रालय, इंटरिम रिलीफ की बात पूरी हो सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट के रवेये की बात बताई नहीं कि सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट किठना इंटरिम रिलीफ देने की योजना कर रही है ? स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को क्या दिया (व्यवधान) जी.ए. मर्ज करेंगे या नहीं करेंगे, आपने सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट इम्प्लाइड के लिए इंटरिम रिलीफ देने के लिए क्या सोचा 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 D.A. 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.

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?