

WELCOME TO H.E. DR. RAFAEL CALDERA, PRESIDENT OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am interrupting the proceedings. I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the hon. Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Dr. Rafael Caldera, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Council, who is on a visit to India as our honoured guest.

Dr. Caldera arrived here on Saturday, 24th April, 1982. He has visited Bombay and Agra. He is now seated in the Special Box.

Dr. Caldera is a former President of the House of Representatives of Venezuela and also former President of the Republic of Venezuela. He is also a lifetime Senator. Besides, he is a man of academic distinction. He was elected as the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Council—Chief Policy Forming and Executive Organ of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, of which India is also a Member since 1949.

We wish him a very happy and long life and we also wish that under his stewardship the Inter-Parliamentary Union grows into a more effective Forum of the National Parliaments. Through him we convey our greetings to the Government and the friendly people of Venezuela.

MEMBERS SWORN—contd.

Punjab

41. Sardar Gurcharan Singh Tohra

Rajasthan

42. Shri Mohammed Usman Arif

43. Shri Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi

44. Shri Natha Singh

Uttar Pradesh

45. Shri J. P. Goyal

46. Shri Hashim Raza Abidi Allahabad

47. Shri Krishna Nand Joshi

48. Shrimati Krishna Kaul

49. Shri Bishambhar Nath Pande

50. Shri Ram Naresh Kushawaha

51. Dr. Sankata Prasad

52. Shri Ghan Shyam Singh

53. Shri Sukhdeo Prasad

54. Shri Shanti Tyagi

55. Shri Shyam Lal Yadav

West Bengal

56. Shri Nepaldev Bhattacharjee

57. Shri Nirmal Chatterjee

58. Shri Ramkrishna Mazumder

59. Shri Kalyan Roy

60. Shri Sukomal Sen

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

SHRI KALYAN ROY (West Bengal): Sir, I am on a point of order. (Interruptions) Please listen to me, Sir. It is a serious point of order. You have got to give me precedence. Sir, we have been allotted seats. I would like to know what is the criterion for distribution of seats.

SHRI J. K. JAIN (Madhya Pradesh): There is no point of order during the Question Hour.

SHRI MANUBHA PATEL (Gujarat): This is not Question Hour. This is oath-taking

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Sir, this is highly relevant. Mr. Jain should try to understand. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I was going to welcome Mr. Kalyan Roy, but, I think, I will have to change my mind. He seems to have forgotten the ways of this House. (*Interruptions*). First, I have to welcome you.

I am very glad to welcome the hon. new Members on behalf of myself and the hon. Members of the House. Most of the new Members have taken their seats in the House for the first time today. Some others may join it a little later.

Two years ago on the 9th June, 1980, I had welcomed the new Members who had then joined the House in the biennial election. Some of the incoming Members like my colleague Mr. Shyam Lal Yadav and Mr. L. K. Advani, Mr. Kalyan Roy, Mr. Ramnand Yadav, and some others whose names I am not mentioning, were with us before. I welcome them also although their term hardly came to an end except for a very brief period of some days. They will continue the good work they were doing.

The Rules of the House, I presume, have already been distributed to the new Members and I hope that they will find time to study them and get to know the way in which this House functions.

SHRI J. K. JAIN: Sir, a copy may be sent to Shri Kalyan Roy.

SHRI B. D. KHOBRAGADE (Maharashtra): Why Shri Kalyan Roy only?

MR. CHAIRMAN: A close study of these will enable new Members to participate meaningfully in all that takes place here.

I am hoping to make their acquaintance very soon and I also hope that the hon. new Members will lose no time to know their colleagues from their and other parties. We work here with mutual respect for others. It is not always that we agree but we

try to understand the other point or point of view. In so far as persons occupying this Chair are concerned, it is difficult to make things absolutely equal between Members. We do try to be as fair as possible to all. Hon. Members may bear in mind that many others are as anxious to speak as they are, and that it is not always possible for the Chair to decide who will be more relevant without hearing all and that is not possible. Therefore, hon. Members, if they sometimes get overlooked, they ought not to be unduly disappointed. I can assure the hon. Members on behalf of my colleagues and myself, who occupy the Chair, that while we are in the Chair we try to be fair to all parties and all Members.

The work we do, I need hardly tell you, is of the utmost importance to the Nation and is watched with great attention by the public. They follow everything said and done here.

Before I continue reading, I hope Gyaniji is hearing, I will recite a couplet of Poet Atish, and that is the one which you have to remember in addition to your oath:

आतिश ने कहा है "सुन तो सही
जहां में है तेरा फसाना क्या, और कहती
है तुझको खल्क खुदा गायबाना क्या" ।

I will translate it for you. "Listen and find out what the world thinks of you and how the public outside thinks of you." So, if you keep that in mind in addition to the oath, you will go very far.

I will read it again for Gyaniji's benefit.

आतिश ने कहा है "सुन तो सही
जहां में है तेरा फसाना क्या, और कहती
है तुझको खल्क खुदा गायबाना क्या" ।

श्री भा. बे. खोबरागडे: ज्ञानी जी
जबाब दे रहे हैं... (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He will do in his turn.

भीमतो सरोज खावडे (महाराष्ट्र) :
आपने जो भाषण अभी किया है सदन में, इसमें कहीं पर भी आपने किसी महिला का नाम बिल्कुल नहीं लिया है।

SHRI PILOO MODY (Gujarat):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is for that very reason that I am on my legs, to welcome the lady Members of the House along with joining you in the sentiments that you have expressed. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Khaparde, I could not say that I am welcoming the old lady Members* because you might have taken offence.

I hope that in this Session which is only a short one we shall be able to finish all scheduled tasks on time. With these words let me again welcome the new Members and wish them a happy and busy time in the service of India.

We will now take up Question No. 1.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Karnal Telephone Exchange

*1. **SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI:**

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR:†

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as against the Exchange Boards and machinery capacity of 600 to 700 lines, more than 2500 telephone connections have been given at Karnal leading to widespread complaints of dead telephones and wrong connections;

(b) whether there are complaints regarding over-billing also;

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. Bhai Mahavir.

(c) whether the Director, Telecommunications is reportedly declaring the faults as rectified without even enquiring from the complaining subscriber, as alleged by the Hony. Secretary of the Karnal Telephone Subscribers' Association; and

(d) if so, what action is being taken to remove the complaints in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. There are complaints regarding over billing.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The following steps have been/are being taken to reduce the complaints:

(i) The exchange equipment has been overhauled.

(ii) Overhead alignments are being reduced by laying under ground cables.

(iii) Regular inspection of lines is being done.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Sir, I have a very serious point of order regarding...

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: No point of order during Question Hour.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Let the Chairman decide, he knows me better than you do... (*Interruptions*). Sir, it involves the rights of the Members of the Rajya Sabha in...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kalyan Roy, I think before you begin mining and quarrying in the House, come to my Chamber and explain.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Sir, if you listen to me...