

Electronic Telephone Exchange

1500. SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.S.A. has built its first ever electronic telephone exchange;

(b) whether Telecommunication Research Centre in India is working on the design for an experimental electronic exchange; and

(c) if so, what are the difficulties in the designing and manufacturing thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The basic difficulty in the designing and manufacture of electronic switching system is the inadequate infrastructure in the country for large-scale manufacture of reliable electronic components and exchange equipment.

Judgement of Supreme Court on Extra Postal Department Employees

1501. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has awarded a decision on 22-4-1977 in regard to recognition of the extra-postal department employees (of branch post offices) as the civilian employees and thus are entitled to these benefits (as the civilian employees are);

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to implement the Supreme Court decision; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) and (b) There is no such ruling

of the Supreme Court recognising the Extra Departmental Staff as civilian (regular) employees of the department. The Supreme Court Judgement dated 22-4-1977 declared them as "holders of civil posts" and as such entitled to the protection under Article 311 (2) of the Constitution. This protection has already been extended to them.

(c) Question does not arise.

दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण द्वारा निर्माण कार्य

1502. श्री हुस्म देव नारायण यादव : क्या निर्माण और आवास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली में दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण तथा अन्य भवन निर्माण एजेंसियों द्वारा किस-किस प्रकार के विभिन्न निर्माण कार्य किए जा रहे हैं ; और

(ख) गत तीन वर्ष के दौरान उनमें से प्रत्येक एजेंसी द्वारा पूरा किए गए निर्माण कार्य के बारे में सहित प्रत्येक निर्माण कार्य की निर्माण लागत कितनी-कितनी है ;

संसदीय कार्य और निर्माण तथा आवास मंत्री (श्री भोष्मनारायण सिंह) : (क) तथा (ख) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है तथा सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Repainting of Mural about Gandhi

1503. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN MISHRA: SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ;

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that very recently the murals about Gandhi ji

at the site where he used to have prayer meetings in the premises of the Gandhi Smriti, have been repainted; if so, how much amount has been spent on retouching and repainting of such murals;

(b) whether it is a fact (hat some of the murals have been shown in an undignified manner about the Father of the Nation-

(c) whether some of those murals had been scratched earlier when a Member of Parliament had gone on an indefinite fast for the take over of the 'Birla House'; and

(d) whether any decision on the repainting of scratched murals was taken at any meeting of the Gandhi Smriti Executive Committee?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. About Rs. 6,000/- were spent on retouching and repainting of murals.

(b) While all the murals are based on incidents and events narrated in Gandhiji's Atma Katha, some of them do appear to be inappropriate to the sanctity of the place.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir. The Executive Committee of the Gandhi Smriti in their meeting held on 5-11-79 approved of the repairing and renovation of murals.

Gift of a piece of Land to Gandhi Smarak Nidhi

1504. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY:
SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA;

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a piece of land has been gifted to the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi at No. 1, Raj-ghat Colony, Delhi; if so, how many acres of land was gifted to the Nidhi

and what were the terms and conditions governing the gift; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that an organisation called Gandhi Book House with ultra-political and commercial activities is also functioning in the premises allotted to the Nidhi?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir, A piece of land measuring 6.199 acres on Bela Road was allotted to Gandhi Smarak Nidhi at a premium of Rupee one per annum. Under the terms of the perpetual lease executed on 22-1-1979, the lessee is not permitted to carry on or permit to be carried on at the said premises any trade or business whatsoever or use the same or permit the same to be used for any purpose other than that of Gandhi Museum, Electric Sub-Station, Servant Block and Office building and Residential Complex for the bonafide staff only.

(b) Quarter No. 1 on the ground floor is being utilised for the sale of books by the Gandhi Book House. No information is available regarding political activities of the Book House.

Government Loan for House Building Societies

1505. SHRI BHAGAT RAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to grant loans to Government employees who are members of the Grout) Housing Societies for construction of flats by the Societies-i

(b) whether Government have issued directions to the public undertakings for adopting similar rules for their employees; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?