

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

M.Ps. Telephone Rent Bills

*337. SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that of late there have been complaints of excessive billing on their telephones by some Members of Parliament; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BRAHAMANANDA REDDI): (a) and (b) Complaints about excessive billing from telephones of M.Ps in Delhi have been received from time to time. However, these complaints have come down from 103 in 1972 to 62 in 1973. Exchange equipment, lines and cable plant and telephone instruments of the telephones of M.Ps. have been thoroughly checked and attended to. Wherever necessary, telephone instruments have been replaced. S.T.D. facility has been barred from the telephones of some M.Ps on their request. A Committee was set up to examine the general question of excessive billing in Delhi Telephones whose report is expected to be submitted shortly. Necessary action in the light of the recommendations of the Committee would be taken after the Report has been received and examined.

Growth Rate Dispute

*338. SHRI M. K. MOHTA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article which appeared in the 'Financial Express' of the 5th January, 1974 regarding "Growth rate dispute" and if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): The attention of the Government has been drawn to an article which appeared in 'Financial Express' of January 5, 1974 regarding the "Growth rate dispute". The projections given in the

Draft Fifth Five Year Plan in regard to the growth rate and other related magnitudes are based on well recognised techniques and methodology, latest available data, and detailed assessment by a large number of Task Forces and Working Groups constituted for the purpose. These have also taken into account, to the extent possible, the views expressed by informed public opinion including noted economists outside the Government.

Anti-sea erosion works in Kerala

*339. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN:

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA ME
NON.

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government have requested the Central Government for assistance for anti-sea erosion works in that State in the form of 100 per cent grant instead of 100 per cent loan which is being given to them at present;

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Central Government in the matter; and

(c) what assistance is proposed to be given to that State during the Fifth Five Year Plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Planning Commission have, in consultation with the Ministry of Finance taken the view that considering the nature of the scheme, it will not be advisable to treat any Central assistance for anti-sea erosion works in Kerala as a grant when in the case of other States, the allocation made for programmes for resources development are being treated as loan assistance.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

Power Crisis in the Country

*340. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO:

SHRI K. C. PANDA:

SHRI GOLAP BARBORA:

SHRI M. K. MOHTA: