

INFLATION OF TELEPHONE BILLS

*102. SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an increase in the complaints of inflation of telephone bills;

(b) whether telephone bills are calculated by I.B.M., an American Company; and

(c) whether the said company gets credit for increased collections on larger bills ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Part of the work in connection with the preparation of telephone bills has been entrusted on contract basis to Messrs. IBM, an American company.

(c) No, Sir. The rates of payment are related to the number of bills; and the quantum of work done, and are not related to the amount of the bills.

ENFORCEMENT OF LABOUR LEGISLATIONS

*103. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that large number of workers employed by the various cooperative societies are deprived of their benefits under the various labour legislations;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to enforce the laws;

(c) whether Government are also aware of the recent decision of the Madhya Pradesh High Court according to which the employees are completely left at the mercy of office-bearers of the cooperative societies who in most cases are exploiting the employees by depriving them of better working conditions and social security benefits; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to meet this situation ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI) : (a) to (d) The Cooperative Societies Act of certain States contain provisions whose effect is that disputes between Societies and its employees should be settled according to procedures prescribed by the Act and not under the Industrial Disputes Act. This situation exists in Madhya Pradesh also. But the said provision in the Cooperative Societies Act does not have the effect of depriving the workers of any material benefits to which they are entitled or of leaving them at the mercy of the officers of the Societies. The Government of India has no proposal to take any action in the matter. The question of amending the Cooperative Societies Act of each State is the concern of that State.

UNIFORM CIVIL CODE

*104. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN :
SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN :
DR. BHAI MAHAVIR :

Will the Minister of LAW be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Women's Council has recently adopted a resolution in Chandigarh recommending to Government that necessary steps under article 44 of the Constitution should be taken to provide for a uniform Civil Code for all communities in the country; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to bring any legislation to give effect to this recommendation ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI P. GOVINDA MENON) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since there is no uniformity of views among the different sections of the citizens of India as to the enactment of a uniform code of laws relating to marriage, succession, etc., there is no such proposal.

NATIONAL FOOD BUDGET

* 105. SHRI KRISHAN KANT : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the answer

to Unstarred Question No. 299 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd November, 1968 and state what further progress has since been made in the preparation of a National Food Budget?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE) : It is likely to take considerable time to remove all the limitations involved in the preparation of a National Food Budget. A scheme has been formulated for preparation of timely estimates of production and area sown.

AUTOMATION IN POST OFFICES

*106. SHRI M. K. MOHTA :
SARDAR RAM SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to introduce automation in the post offices in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the cities where it is proposed to be introduced;

(c) the number of the employees likely to be affected as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government for the rehabilitation of the affected employees ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA) : (a) to (d) A statement is placed on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) There is no proposal to introduce automation in Post Offices in this country. Field trials are, however, in progress regarding the adoption of various gadgets and machines to speed up counter operations and expedite handling of mails, like franking machines, vending machines, cancelling machines, bundling machines, conveyors, etc.

(b) As experience is gained, similar machines will be introduced in various places.

(c) It is not expected that any employees will be affected as a result of the adoption of such gadgets.

(d) Does not arise.

LEGAL AID TO IMMIGRANTS

*107. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of LAW be pleased to state :

(a) whether Lord Denning said in Delhi on the 10th January 1969 at a meeting organized by the Indian Law Institute that legal aid to immigrants was an important development in Great Britain in the development of law; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to consider the question of legal aid to immigrants at Government expense being introduced in India ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI P. GOVINDA MENON) :

(a) It is learnt that Lord Denning spoke extempore on the occasion and no record of the speech has been kept by the Indian Law Institute. Government has hence no information on the point.

(b) No, Sir.

चीनी का उत्पादन

*108. श्री निरंजन वर्मा : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1969 के वर्ष में कुल कितनी चीनी का उत्पादन होने की आशा है ;

(ख) 1968 के वर्ष में कुल कितनी चीनी का उत्पादन हुआ और किन किन देशों को कितनी कितनी चीनी किस किस मूल्य पर निर्यात की गई ;

(ग) 1968 के वर्ष में राज्यों को चीनी का कितना कितना कोटा आवंटित किया गया और उसका कितना कितना मूल्य था ; और

(घ) 1968 के वर्षों में खुले बाजार में बिक्री के लिये कितनी चीनी दी गई ?