

ment is accepted for contributions to journals, etc. While contributing these articles the Heads of Missions are expected to keep Articles 18(4) of the Constitution in mind.

The Ambassador had sent the articles to Government before-hand and sought Government's permission for their publication which was accorded.

TELEPHONE SYSTEM

*553. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the complaints against the working of the telephone system in the country have increased considerably during the last two or three years; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to raise the efficiency in the working of the telephone system in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): (a) No.

(b) The efficiency of the Telephone services is being raised by taking various steps such as opening of new exchanges, increasing the capacity of existing exchanges as feasible, replacement of manual exchanges by automatic ones, introduction of modem type of switching equipment like crossbar switching systems, provision of large blocks of trunk circuits through coaxial cables and micro-waves systems on main routes, introduction of subscriber operator Trunk dialling services on important trunk circuits, etc.

KENYA DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN INDIA

554. SHRI SIT ARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received a communication from the Kenya Government regarding a proposal of the latter Gov-

ernment to establish a diplomatic mission in New Delhi in the near future; and

(b) if so, when the mission is likely to be set up.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

प्रतिरक्षा सामग्री का आयात

555. श्री राम सहाय : क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि विदेशी मुद्रा की कठिनाई के कारण विदेशों से रक्षा संबंधी सामग्री का आयात करने में सरकार को कठिनाई का अनुभव हुआ है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस स्थिति का सामना करने के लिए सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

■f [IMPORT OF DEFENCE MATERIAL

565. SHRI RAM SAHAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have experienced difficulty in importing defence equipment from foreign countries because of difficult foreign exchange position; and

(to) if so, what action Government have taken to meet such a situation?]

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री वाई० बी० चट्टोपाय) :

(क) तथा (ख) सरकार की नीति है कि अपनी सशस्त्र सेनाओं के लिये आवश्यक साज-सामान का यथासंभव, देश में ही निर्माण किया जाए, और साज-सामान का केवल उसी सीमा तक आयात किया जाए, जहां ऐसा हो पाना संभव न हो, या उत्पादन सुविधाएं स्थापित करना आर्थिक दृष्टि से लाभकर न हो। विदेशी मुद्रा स्थिति भी एक कारण है जिसे विदेश से साधारण रक्षा साज-सामान

† [] English translation.