

(b) the amount of grant given by Central Government for Harijan Welfare work upto the month of July 1964 during the year 1964-65?]

सामाजिक सुरक्षा विभाग में उप-मन्त्री  
(श्रीमती मरगतम् चन्द्रशेखर) : (क)  
१९६२-६३—४६.३८ लाख रु० ।

१९६३-६४—४४.०० लाख रु० ।

कुल—९०.३८ लाख रु० ।

(ख) १९६४-६५ के लिये सहायक अनुदान का राशि लेखा अभी तक निश्चित नहीं हुआ है। वर्तमान क्रियाविधि के अनुसार, केन्द्रीय सहायता का तीन-चौथाई भाग वित्त मन्त्रालय द्वारा राज्य सरकार के व्ययन के लिये अर्थोपाय ऋण के रूप में नौ मासिक किश्तों में दिया जाता है। अन्तिम भुगतान वित्त वर्ष के अन्त में, पहले तीन तिमाहियों के वास्तविक खर्च तथा अन्तिम तिमाही में यथार्थवत् खर्च के अनुमान के आधार पर, किया जाता है।

†[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY (SHRIMATI MARAGATHAM CHANDRASEKHAR): (a) 1962-63—Rs. 46.38 lakhs.

1963-64—Rs. 44.00 lakhs.

Total—Rs. 90.38 lakhs.

(b) The grant-in-aid accounts have not yet been settled for the year 1964-65. According to the present procedure, three-fourth of the Central assistance is placed at the disposal of the State Government in nine monthly instalments as ways and means advances by the Ministry of Finance. The final payment is made towards the end of the financial year on the basis of the actual expenditure for the first three quarters and a realistic estimate of expenditure during the last quarter.]

†[ ] English translation.

# CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

ALLEGED TAPPING OF THE TELEPHONE OF THE CHIEF MINISTER, PUNJAB, BY SOME EMPLOYEES IN THE CHANDIGARH TELEPHONE EXCHANGE

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Communications and Parliamentary Affairs to the alleged tapping of the telephone of the Chief Minister, Punjab by some employees in the Chandigarh Telephone Exchange.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): Sir, certain complaints had been received in the second week of this month that some officials of the Telephone Branch at Chandigarh were indulging in tapping of telephone conversation of the Chief Minister, Punjab, and passing information to other people. A senior Minister of the Punjab Government also met the Minister of Communications and mentioned about such rumours. The matter has been investigated but no evidence is available about tapping or over-hearing of telephone calls by the P&T staff, i.e. telephone operators or other employees of the P&T Department.

The Postmaster-General, Punjab, had a discussion on this matter with the Chief Minister and the Home Minister, Punjab, on the 23rd September, 1964. It has been explained to the Chief Minister by the Postmaster-General that, so far as could be ascertained through investigations conducted so far, no evidence of any tapping of telephones of the Chief Minister was available.

Careful vigilance is being kept to avoid any possibility of such tapping.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: May I know whether any telephone operators have recently been transferred following these complaints?

SHRI B. BHAGAVATI: Transfers are made because of administrative necessity and exigencies.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Sir, the Chief Minister of Punjab is reported to have stated in the Assembly that he was in correspondence with the Central Government on this subject. Are we to understand that the Chief Minister did not make any specific allegations?

SHRI B. BHAGAVATI: He has only suspected that there might be some tapping and that is the matter which he indicated to the PMG by writing a letter to him.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Is it not a fact that the Department of Posts and Telegraphs does indulge in tapping if it is asked by the Central Government or the State Government?

SHRI B. BHAGAVATI: No.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: What is the reply?

SHRI B. BHAGAVATI: It is not a fact. We do not resort to tapping in any circumstances.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: (West Bengal): As far as tapping is concerned, my telephone is tapped every day constantly and of all my colleagues

AN HON. MEMBER: All of us.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Anyway, we are not going into that. Sometimes it is tape-recorded. . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: What do you mean by all of a sudden?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You know it for a fact. There is so much of difficulty. Sometimes we cannot talk to others because of tape-recording. You know it for a fact also. He would tell us that they did so. The example is set by the Central Gov-

ernment by tapping the telephones of the Opposition. Now, it has boomeranged on them. Anyhow, the question here is this. The hon. Minister made a statement in which he said that the matter had been explained to the Punjab Chief Minister but he did not tell us in the course of the statement whether the Punjab Chief Minister was satisfied by the explanation that was given to him. Was the Punjab Chief Minister satisfied by what your officials told him and as a result, did he withdraw his allegations or charges?

SHRI B. BHAGAVATI: He was satisfied. I repudiate the suggestion made by the hon. Member that the Central Government resort to tapping of telephones of hon. Members.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You come to my house. I invite you.

SHRI B. BHAGAVATI: I do not think anybody has any interest in tapping the telephones of hon. Members.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In any case it is not done with your authority.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Why should it not be? No, no. The Home Ministry gets it done.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: The Central Intelligence Bureau.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The Central Intelligence Bureau.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: We know it for certain. (Interruptions) Sir, the Central Intelligence Bureau deposes its officers and the Department of Communications obliges them.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Dr. B. C. Roy told me in conversation in Bengal.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: In the statement the hon. Minister referred to a senior Minister of Punjab meeting the Minister of Communications.

Is it not a fact that that senior Minister gave certain names of telephone operators whom he suspected of indulging in tapping?

SHRI B. BHAGAVATI: He spoke about this tapping generally. He might have mentioned about somebody. I do not know.

श्री बिमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरडिया (मध्य प्रदेश) : क्या श्रीमान् यह बतलायेंगे कि जिन लोगों के नाम चीफ मिनिस्टर ने आपको बताया था और जिन स्थानों के बारे में बताया था उनके बारे में भी विभाग ने कोई जांच कर ली अथवा नहीं ? अगर जांच कर ली, तो उसका क्या परिणाम रहा ?

SHRI B. BHAGAVATI: The whole thing has been enquired into by the Postmaster-General himself and we have not come across any concrete evidence to establish any tapping so far.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: How? We would like to know the manner of investigation.

SHRI A. D. MANI (Madhya Pradesh): Following the answers given by the Minister, may I ask him what is the procedure which is followed? When the Central Intelligence Bureau wants to tap telephone calls, is the permission of the Ministry of Communications taken or are they informed later that certain calls were tapped? I would like the Minister to throw some light on the *modus operandi* of tapping.

SHRI B. BHAGAVATI: When there are allegations or complaints, then those officials there generally enquire into them. In this case the matter was also communicated to the Minister of Communications. He also asked him to enquire into the matter and the Postmaster General himself enquired into this matter

(Several hon. Members rose)

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is enough please.

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE CENTRAL WAREHOUSING CORPORATION (SECOND AMENDMENT) RULES, 1964

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): Sir, on behalf of Shri D. R. Chavan, I beg to lay on the Table, under subsection (3) of section 41 of the Warehousing Corporations Act, 1962, a copy of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Food) Notification G.S.R. No. 1266, dated the 31st August, 1964, publishing the Central Warehousing Corporation (Second Amendment) Rules, 1964. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3214/64].

REPORT OF SHRI L. C. JAIN RE THE ESCAPE OF MR. DANIEL H. WALCOTT FROM SAFDARJUNG AIRPORT AND GOVERNMENT'S DECISION THEREON

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI N. KANUNGO): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers:—

(i) Report of Shri L. C. Jain, Secretary, Department of Communications, in respect of the escape of Mr. Daniel H. Walcott in a Piper Apache aircraft on September 26, 1963, from Safdarjung Airport.

(ii) Memorandum giving the decision of the Government of India on the Report mentioned at (i) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3252/64 for (i) and (ii)].