

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: I quite understand the position . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: He wants to know whether at least 10,000 would be set up by the next year?

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Yes.

SHRI B. SHIVA RAO: The Ministry has a system whereby on payment of Rs. 2,000, you can get your own telephone. When a telephone-owner of that kind changes his residence, he frequently finds that there is a long delay in getting his telephone working in his new residence. Will my hon. friend look into that complaint?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Of course.

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: It is due to the fact that there may not be a circuit available at the place where the person has changed his residence, but as far as it lies in my power, I have been trying to give them the telephone when complaints have been brought to my notice.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Do Government propose to augment or increase the five exchanges in Delhi and, if so, by when?

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: In spite of all the exchanges that we have been able to provide, we find it impossible to meet the demand that is growing from day to day.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: What is the expectation of the demand in the course of another 3 years and how do Government deal with the question with the Planning Commission in this regard?

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: We are trying to get the Planning Commission to agree to give us more funds in order to meet the demand. But I can assure the hon. Member that it will not be possible to meet the demands that are coming forth.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What are the exact difficulties in the way of giving

telephone connections? Is it the paucity of manufactured telephone sets?

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: There are many questions involved, of cables, circuits, exchanges and so on. It is not possible to provide for everyone with such a growing demand.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF RAIL-SEA CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

***307. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND:** Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state whether steps are being taken to implement the recommendations of the Rail-Sea Co-ordination Committee, and if so, what recommendations have so far been implemented and what recommendations will be implemented later on?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. P. SUBBARAYAN): A statement indicating the present position in regard to the various recommendations of the Committee is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix XXVII, Annexure No 15].

ENQUIRY OFFICE AT DELHI RAILWAY STATION

***308. SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of staff posted daily at the Delhi railway station enquiry office; and

(b) where this office is located?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) 28.

(b) There are 4 Enquiry Offices at Delhi Station and their location is as under:—

(i) Telephone Enquiry Office-upstairs.

(ii) Enquiry Office in the main porch.

(iii) Enquiry Office in the East-end 3rd class passenger hall.

(iv) Enquiry office in the West-end 3rd class passenger hall.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: How many hours do these men work at a stretch?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: They work in shifts of eight hours each.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: How are these offices housed? Is it not a fact that at the Delhi Main Station the enquiry office is open all round with the result that there is too much of noise and nobody can listen to anything?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I think they serve the purpose for which they are built.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: What efforts are made to ensure that the telephone is properly operated by having more than one connection in the enquiry office?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: We have adequate staff and they are coping with the work.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: I was asking a completely different question and the hon. Deputy Minister is giving quite a different reply. More often than not, anybody who dials for the number finds it engaged. What steps are being taken to ensure that any telephone enquiry is properly received at the other end and people do not always find the number engaged?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: I think the staff provided is, generally speaking, enough. We have got 5 telephones there and our experience has been that they are rendering satisfactory service.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Are they different numbers or the same number with five different lines?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: Different numbers.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: My experience has been that every time I ring up, the telephone is engaged. Will the hon. Minister consider the advisability of providing more telephones?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Every time he rings up, they are engaged.

(No reply)

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know, Sir, if the hon. Minister is aware that there are ways and means by which more than one connection can be operated? One enquiry can be automatically passed on to another telephone number if that one is not engaged. Is he aware of that, and also that such contrivances are in use in Europe and other countries? What steps has he taken to have them here also?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: I am not a telephone engineer and perhaps it is too late in life for me to learn it.

NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION PROGRAMME

*309. SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount spent by the States on underground drainage under the National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme up to October, 1959;

(b) what are the steps taken by Government to narrow the gap in expenditure on water supply and drainage schemes; and

(c) whether any States or Local Bodies have been statutorily authorised to raise loans for supplementing the existing provision under the National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.