

**DETERIORATION OF TELEPHONE SERVICES IN  
GREATER BOMBAY**

•244. SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone services in Greater Bombay have of late been deteriorating;

(b) whether wrong bills are issued due to defect in the automatic system.;

(c) whether there is an Advisory Committee to look into the general working of the system, and if so, what are its functions;

(d) whether Government propose to reconstitute this Committee with different terms of reference, and if so, what will be the terms of reference of the new Advisory Committee; and

(e) if the replies to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to appoint an Enquiry Committee to study and report on this situation?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI S. K. PATIL): (a) This is a matter of opinion but so far as facts go, the incidence of faults has gone down.

(b) It is possible but not as a rule. Where any mistakes come to notice, the position is rectified.

(c) Yes. The functions of Telephone Advisory Committee are given in the statement laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise.

**STATEMENT**

The functions of the Telephone Advisory Committee are:—

1. Advising the Department in opening new connections on a fair and equitable basis by assessing merits and claims of individual applicants and the comparative-nature of their activities.

2. Advising the Department for betterment of the local exchange service and trunk service.

3. Assisting the Department to tide over the present situation by invoking co-operation and patience from the public.

4. Establishing better relationship between the public and P and T Department as regards telephone service

5. Making known to the public the action being taken by the Department to improve the telephone service.

**PROTECTION OF SEEDS OF WHEAT AND  
BARLEY FROM DISEASES**

72. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any chemical has been found or discovered to protect seeds of wheat and barely etc., from diseases;

(b) if so, what is that chemical, and from where it can be had and at what price; and

(c) what is the method of its use and whether it is available for public use?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): (a) and (b). Yes Sir, the chemicals used are various types of organic compounds of mercury. These are marketed in India under various trade