

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question does not arise. Those who have clothes must have loose clothes.

TELEPHONE RENTALS IN MYSORE STATE

*24. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the resolutions regarding telephone charges passed at a public meeting under the auspices of the Journalists' Association, Mysore, on the 23rd December, 1952; and

(b) whether a deputation waited on the Minister for Communications in the first week of January, 1953 at Bangalore to seek redress against the enhancement of the telephone rentals?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR):

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it not a fact that the telephone rentals were very much cheaper in Mysore State before the integration?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: It is a fact that the rentals were lower than those obtaining in other parts of the country.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Have the trunk telephone charges been raised from Re. -/12/- to Rs. 2/2/-?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Yes, to bring about uniform rates throughout the country.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it necessary that the same rates should prevail in all places, whether big or small?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: It is a necessary corollary of financial integration that there should be uniform tariffs throughout the country.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Did the Journalists' Association, Mysore, make a representation to the Minister for Communications to lower the rates?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Yes, Sir. Their representation was that Bangalore should not be treated in the same way as the big commercial centres like Bombay, Madras and Calcutta, but H.M. replied that he had also to consider towns like taluk headquarters which were far smaller than Bangalore where also the same rentals are being recovered in order to ensure uniformity.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: After that, have you thought over the matter?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I have already replied.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE: Is it a fact that the Government recently separated the administration of the telephone and telegraph sections and thereby increased the administrative cost of the telephones?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Neither does it arise from the question, nor is it a fact.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE: Does the Government consider that the telephone is an essential system of communication to the community?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Obviously, it is very essential.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE: Can the Government say that under the present telephone tariff telephone facilities are available to the common man in this country?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: The rates are not high.

SHRI D. D. ITALIA: Are trunk telephone facilities available in all the districts of Hyderabad?

MR. CHAIRMAN: From Bangalore we are now going to Hyderabad. We may be going to other places too.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: It arises out of the trunk telephone connection between Bangalore and Hyderabad.

SURVEY OF HARBOURS IN INDIA

•25. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government have invited foreign experts to make a survey regarding harbours in India;

•(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the particulars of the experts invited; and

(c) the approximate expenditure like to be incurred under the scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Yes. The Government of India have taken advantage of the technical assistance scheme of the United Nations to secure the services of one expert to study and advise on the problems of hydrographic surveys of minor ports in Bombay State and two experts to study and advise on the problem of dredging and siltation of the more important minor ports in India. The former has already arrived and the latter are expected to reach India shortly.

(b) Available particulars regarding the experts are given in the statement placed on the Table of the House.

(c) The Government of India have to bear only the expenditure in India of the experts, the United Nations bearing the cost of their salaries and travel to and from India. The expenditure on the hydrographic survey expert is being borne entirely by the Government of Bombay while the expenditure on the dredging experts which is estimated at about Rs. 15,000 is proposed to be shared by the Government of India and the State Governments concerned.

Statement showing particulars of Foreign Experts invited to make a survey regarding Harbours in India.

MR. HENRY KRAUSS of Netherlands arrived in India to advise the Government of Bombay on the question of hydrographic survey of minor ports in that State. He was in-charge of the Department of Hydrography in Indonesia up till 1951 after which he was working as in-charge of Hydrographic Bureau at the Hague. He is well-known in International Hydrographic Circles.

MR. J. G. D. POIRIER, Dredging Superintendent of the Marine Industries, Ltd., of Montreal, which is reported to be a firm of repute and has considerable experience in all types of dredging spread over a period of 31 years. Age 48 years. Nationality—French Canadian.

M. P. CORMIER is a graduate engineer and has been Assistant «b the Chief Engineer in Dredging Division of the Marine Industries, Ltd., with experience of dredging progress reports, dredging job estimates, job inspection, estimating and drafting for dredging equipment, construction and reports. Age 25. Reported to have a very complete knowledge of dredging. Nationality—French Canadian.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Are these experts on a contract basis?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: We have got their services through the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: What is the duration they are expected to work here?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: They will be working for not less than three months.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Are they working here as a team or each expert by himself?