THE PROVISION OF COMMUNICATION FACILITIES IN EVERY VILLAGE BILL, 2019

By

SHRI RAKESH SINGH, M.P.

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to provide for the facilities of telephone and post office in all the villages of the country and for matters connected therewith.

Be it enacted by Parliament in the Seventieth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Provision of Communication Facilities in Every Village Act, 2019.

(2) It extends to the whole of India.

2. The Central Government shall provide in every village throughout the country, the following facilities, namely:—

   (i) a post office; and
(ii) a public telephone connection with STD facility under the control of the head of the Village Panchayat.

3. (1) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

(2) Every rule made under this Act, shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both the Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.
STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

In India, about seventy-five per cent. of the people still live in villages. There are a number of villages in remote areas inhabited by tribals and backward classes. Even after seventy-two years of our independence, no significant development work has been done at such places. There are no postal facilities available in these areas. There are no telephones and the villages have virtually no communication links with the rest of the country. It takes months for a letter to reach in these villages. Most of villagers migrate to the cities for work and remain cut-off from their families due to non-availability of modern means of communication in their native villages. The postal, telephone and other communication facilities have thus become necessary for every village. The villagers can deposit their money in savings account of the post offices thereby making available a lot of money to the Government for development works. The introduction of modern means of communication in every village will be the first step towards taking the boon of modern science to the doorsteps of rural India.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI; RAKESH SINGH
August 6, 2019.
FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 2 of the Bill provides that every village shall be provided with the facilities of a post office as well as a public telephone connection with STD by the Central Government. The Bill, therefore, if enacted, will involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India. It is estimated that a sum of about rupees two hundred crore per annum will be involved as a recurring expenditure out of the Consolidated Fund of India.

A sum of rupees fifty lakh is also likely to be involved as a non-recurring expenditure.
MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 3 of the Bill empowers the Central Government to make rules for carrying out the purposes of the Bill. The rules will relate to the matters of detail only. The delegation of legislative power is, therefore, a normal character.
LOK SABHA

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(Shri Rakesh Singh, M.P.)