

headed by Shri Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister of West Bengal and Chief Minister of Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra and Orissa as Members and Dr. Raja Chelliah, Fiscal Adviser to Government of India as Associate Member. One of the terms of reference of the Committee is to suggest measures for rationalisation of the system of levy and collection of octroi. The Committee is to submit its report by 31st January, 1994.

[English]

Faulty Cable Pairs

1683. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of (i) cable pairs terminated (ii) DELs (Pairs working) (iii) spare pairs OK. (iv) faulty pairs and (v) persons waitlisted as on December 31, 1992 in Delhi Telephones;

(b) whether rectifying the faulty pairs involves no fresh cable laying work and no imported technology;

(c) if so, the number of connections that are given by rectifying the faulty pairs and the likely amount of revenue that is earned annually as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps and time bound programme prescribed or proposed to be prescribed to rectify the faulty pairs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir, number of cable pairs terminated are 10, 27, 730 (ii) DELs as on 31.3.93 are 688830 and number of pairs in use (including pairs for telex, non exchange lines etc.) are 701915 (iii) Number of spare pairs OK are 237214 (iv) Number of faulty

pairs are 88601 (a large number of them beyond economic repairs) and (v) total number of persons waitlisted in respect of Delhi Telephones as on 31.12.92 is 379035.

(b) Yes, Sir. Rectification of faulty cable pairs does not normally involve substantial fresh cables laying work. Faulty pairs are retrieved on a continuous basis, at times even by laying small length of new cables to replace cable in a faulty section. Rectification of faulty cable pairs does not normally involve any imported technology.

(c) Release of a new connection primarily depends upon the availability of exchange equipment capacity. Its provision therefore does not necessarily depend upon rectification of faulty cable pairs.

(d) Rectification of faulty pairs is a continuous process and wherever retrieval of faulty pairs is feasible necessary steps are taken to retrieve the pairs.

Repair/Construction of Roads in Delhi

1684. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the annual expenditure on repairs/construction of roads in Delhi as against the budgetary allocation;

(b) the mode for giving contracts for the repairs/construction of roads;

(c) the names of the Governmental/civic machinery responsible for examining repairs/construction of roads;

(d) whether cases relating to use of spurious building materials have come to light; and

(e) if so, the details thereof including the action taken against those found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) As reported by the concerned agencies the expenditure on repair/construction of roads in Delhi as against the budgetary allocation during the year 1993-94 is given as under :

(Rs. in lakhs)

<i>Allocation</i>		<i>Expenditure</i>	
<i>Repair</i>	<i>Construction</i>	<i>Repair</i>	<i>Construction</i>
4076.04	9700.00	2247.75	4868.24

Note : Expenditure figures are up to 31.10.1993.

(b) The contracts for repairs/ construction of roads are awarded by call of tenders after giving due publicity in leading newspapers.

(c) The various Governmental/Civic authorities responsible for examining repairs/ construction of roads in Delhi are :

- i) Municipal Corporation of Delhi
- ii) New Delhi Municipal Committee, and
- iii) Delhi Administration.

(d) As reported by the concerned agencies, no case relating to use of spurious building materials has come to light.

(e) Does not arise.

Expert Committee for Processing Industry

1685. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has set up an

Expert Committee headed by the former Chief Secretary of Assam and Meghalaya to go into the working of the Food Processing Industry in the North Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING
INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. An Expert Committee headed by the former Chief Secretary of Assam and Meghalaya and consisting of 13 other members has been constituted to study the existing status of food processing industry in the North Eastern States and to suggest long-term and short-term action plans for development of food processing industries there.

(c) The Expert Committee is expected to submit its report within 6 months.

Microwave System in Kerala

1686. SHRI K.M. MATHEW : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be