

[English]

Loadshedding and Power Failure affect the Efficiency of Telephone Exchanges in Calcutta

5520. SHRI DEBI GHOSAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether frequent loadshedding and power failure has affected the efficiency of Telephone Exchanges in West Bengal particularly in Calcutta City ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to minimise the effect of load shedding and power failures so that the exchanges may be kept at proper temperature and free from dust ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under :

(i) Telephone exchanges especially crossbar and Trunk Automatic Exchange have a number of electronic components which start behaving erratically due to non-functioning of air-conditioning plants during the period of frequent and prolonged power failure.

(ii) Small automatic exchanges are provided with window type air-conditions which also do not function for the duration of power failures.

(iii) High temperature and dust adversely effect the performance of automatic exchanges due to non-functioning of airconditioning plants.

(c) To overcome the problems of load-shedding and frequent power failure

following steps are being/have been taken :

(1) Separate feeders for telephone exchanges are being provided wherever possible.

(2) Engine alternators or higher capacity are being provided.

(3) In small automatic exchanges provision of higher capacity batteries and engine alternators are also being made progressively.

Misuse of S.T.D. calls by other Subscribers

5521. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints (s) of telephones being misused for S.T.D. calls by other subscribers in collusion with the telephone staff ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to minimise the chances of such misuse of S.T.D. facilities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At least 4 complaints from subscribers of Delhi Telephones regarding alleged misuse of S.T.D. facility unauthorisedly and suspected connivance of Telecom Staff were received. No collusion of Telecom staff could be established.

(c) Some of the steps already taken to prevent such misuse are :—

(i) Raising of Distribution Points.

(ii) Locking of Distribution Points.