

National Committee on Science and Technology

115. SHRI SUHRID MULLICK CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Committee on Science and Technology has been re-constituted; and

(b) if so, who are the personnel of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI T. A. PAI):

(a) The question of reconstitution of National Committee on Science and Technology is under consideration of Government. However, with a view to maintaining continuity in the functioning of the Committee the term of the existing Committee (which expired on 24-10-74) has been extended up to 28-2-1975 (or till the reconstitution of the Committee whichever is earlier). Dr. A. Ramachandran, Secretary, DST has been appointed as the Vice-Chairman.

(b) Does not arise.

Machine Tools Industry

116. SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the machine tool manufacturers are facing crisis as a result of fall in production vis-a-vis the demand for machine tools;

(b) whether the representatives of the industry have requested Government to relax credit facilities in their case and allow them to diversify their products to enable them to tide over the difficulties; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No, sir.

(b) and (c) Certain representations have been received from the manufacturers

against the curtailment of rediscounting facilities to banks relating to purchase of machine tools. Appropriate actions have been initiated to restore these facilities to the maximum possible extent.

Automatic Telephone Exchange at Dindigul in Tamil Nadu

117. SHRI M. KADERSHAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an automatic telephone exchange is installed in a city having more than one thousand connections; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not providing an automatic telephone exchange in Dindigul in Tamil Nadu having more than two thousand telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir. The planning of an automatic exchange at a place depends on the total telephone demand, availability of land for an exchange building and the financial viability of the Scheme.

(b) A scheme for automatising Dindigul (where the total telephone demand on 31-3-74 was only 1286) is under examination.

Employees on Go-Slow tactics in various R.M.S. Zones

118. SHRI M. KADERSHAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that employees in some of the RMS Zones are on go-slow tactics causing thereby inordinate delay in the delivery of mail at important Railway junctions; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA) : (a) Yes Sir; this was confined

(a) RMS staff at Calcutta where a section of the staff resorted to go-slow tactics.

(b) On account of restrictions in over-time expenditure the staff in the major mail handling offices in Calcutta resorted to go-slow tactics before and during Puja season when traffic is usually heavy.

(c) As a result, the mails accumulated. The Postmaster-General, Calcutta appointed lower grade officials on the approved list as temporary sorters, employed short-duty sorters and permitted Over-time duty on restricted basis. Besides, supervision in the sorting offices was augmented by the deputation of officers from the Postmaster-General's office. The accumulation has now been cleared.

Power shortage

119. SHRI GANESH LAL MALI:

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR
ADIVAREKAR:

SHRIMATI MAIMOONA
SULTAN:

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KUI-
KARNI:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power supply in Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan has been badly disrupted, during the last four months;

(b) if so, the actual requirements and the supplies made to each State;

(c) the loss of industrial and agricultural production estimated to have accrued as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to minimise the shortfall in production due to power crisis?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) The power supply position in Rajasthan has been satisfactory. However, there have been power shortages in the States of Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The estimated requirement of power and actual availability during the July to October, 1974 in the States of Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh were as under:

Month	Haryana	Punjab	Uttar Pradesh
(Figures in million units)			
July, 1974			
Estimated Requirement,	6.00	8.00	25.63
Actual availability	4.15	5.97	17.19
August, 1974			
Estimated Requirement	5.00	8.00	24.35
Actual availability	4.60	5.53	17.65
September, 1974			
Estimated Requirement	6.50	7.75	24.50
Actual availability	4.95	5.98	21.37
October, 1974			
Estimated Requirement	7.00	9.00	25.50
Actual availability	4.54	5.18	19.18