

Irregularities in Delhi Airport Metro Express Line

143. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the service of the Delhi Airport Metro Express has been suspended;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether safety issues and other serious irregularities have been reported in the Airport Metro Express line, and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has constituted an enquiry committee to probe the matter, and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the inquiry committee has submitted its report;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon; and
- (g) if not, the time by which the enquiry report is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) *Prima facie*, the investigations by the Joint Inspection Committee (JIC) comprising Ministry of Railways, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (DMRC), M/s Delhi Airport Metro Express Pvt. Ltd. (DAMEPL) and M/s SYSTRA, the design consultant, show that there are defects in civil works, such as crushing of grout material below and above the bearings, deformation, cracks and shifting of bearings at many locations. In addition, certain cracks and twist in some of the girders have also been noticed.

(d) Yes, Sir. The Government has constituted a two member Enquiry Committee on 24.07.2012, comprising Additional Member (Works), Railway Board, Ministry of Railways and Additional Secretary and Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO), Ministry of Urban Development. The committee was requested to give its report in 3 months from the date of constitution.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) The tenure of the committee has been extended by one month *i.e.* by 24.11.2012.