

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

(b) Virar is already an automatic exchange. Vasai is a manual exchange at present and automatic exchange has been planned to replace the manual exchange. A suitable transmission link for connecting Virar and Vasai to Bombay Trunk Automatic Exchange is under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Constitution of Tyre Committee

5438. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY &
COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to
state :

(a) whether a 'Tyre Committee' was constituted in May, 1984 to go into the problems being faced by tyre manufacturers and users and if so, the names of the members thereof and the time within which it was asked to submit its report ;

(b) whether Government have received its report and if so, the recommendations made in the report ; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay in this regard and the time by which its report is likely to be received ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND
COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF
MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (c).
The Committee on Automobile
Tyres and Tubes was set up in
May 1984 with the composition of
Shri M. Satyapal (formerly Secretary,
Technical Development), as Chairman and
Dr. S. Chandrashekhar, Member, BICP;
Shri S. Chandrasekharan, Director, ISI;
Shri M. Sivaguru, Additional Director
General, Ministry of Shipping and Trans-
port and Shri G.R. Inamdar, Industrial
Adviser, DGTD. The Committee was

required to submit its report within three months' time. However, tenure of the Committee was extended upto January, 1985. The Committee has since submitted its final report to the Government. The main recommendations of the Committee are as under :

- (1) adoption of measures to stabilize the prices of raw materials including expansion of domestic production capacities in respect of raw materials ;
- (2) ISI certification of products and informative labelling of products indicating size, date of manufacture, maximum permissible load, minimum remaining skid depth ;
- (3) formulating of association standards covering tread patterns, categorisation of tyres and limitation of ply ratings ;
- (4) compulsory notification of dealers' and retail prices including discounts offered by industry voluntarily ;
- (5) continuance of production of low ply-rated tyres by the industry providing adequate choice to consumers to purchase such tyres ;
- (6) reduction of cost of production of tyres through better utilisation of capacity, particularly, by increased exports and incorporation of better management practices ;
- (7) encouragement of expansion of existing capacities ;
- (8) establishment of Central R & D Institute in the country for basic and applied research to be funded by a cesson the industry and the Government so as to achieve technological self-reliance in these fields ;
- (9) establishment of material testing facilities ;

- (10) adoption by the industry of better technologies involving replacement of carbon black by silica, use of new fabrics for tyre cord fabric and production of radial tyres ;
- (11) extension of fiscal incentives for expansion and modernisation ;
- (12) improvement and maintenance of roads ;
- (13) effective enforcements of statutory norms regarding maximum loads, operating and safety regulations etc. ;
- (14) introduction of multi-axled vehicles ;
- (15) indication of licensing capacities in terms of weight of material rather than number of tyres and allowing the industry the flexibility to change product mix or to diversify according to market requirement ;
- (16) review of the incidence of fiscal levies on tyres as well as raw materials ; and
- (17) non-intervention by Government in the prices or distribution of tyres.

[English]

Reserved Trained Pool Staff in P & T Department in Kerala Circle

5439. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of reserved trained pool staff working in the P & T Department of Kerala Circle ; and

(b) the steps being taken to absorb them in the permanent vacancies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a)

TELECOM

The number of Reserve Trained Pool staff in Kerala Telecommunication Circle is as follows :

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|------------------------------|-----|
| (i) Telephone Operators : | 247 |
| (ii) Telegraphists : | 42 |
| (iii) Telegraph Assistants : | 41 |
| (iv) Technicians : | 96 |

POSTAL

Information is being collected.

(b) Reserve Trained Pool candidates are absorbed against the future vacancies as and when they arise. At present, their absorption against regular vacancies has been delayed due to ban on creation/filling up of posts.

Grant of letter of intent for manufacture of heavy earth moving machinery to Andhra Pradesh

5440. SHRI N. VENKATA PATNAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh had applied for letter of intent for manufacture of heavy earth moving equipment in any backward area of Andhra Pradesh in 1984 ;

(b) whether no firm in the Country is manufacturing heavy capacity earth moving equipment and whether in view of the above fact, Government will consider to grant letter of intent to Andhra Pradesh soon ; and

(c) whether demand for the same has been increasing considerable in view of the growth of industries in the country ?