

(e) the time by which it is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir. There is no such formal proposal under consideration of the Planning Commission.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

### Solar Cells

\*255. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) proposes to set up an electronic hardware technology park for manufacture of solar cells for export;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether BEL has sought collaboration of some US company in this venture;

(d) if so, the details of the agreement;

(e) the time by which the manufacturing lines are likely to be installed and the production and export likely to start; and

(f) the details of the production and export of solar cells envisaged and the amount of foreign exchange likely to be earned thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY

OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (f). Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) have signed an agreement with M/s Spire Corporation, U.S.A., early this year, for setting up of manufacturing facilities for solar cells at their units in Bangalore. The facilities will be covered by the Electronics Hardware Technology Park (EHTP) Scheme.

BEL have signed another agreement with M/s. Rexor Corporation, California, U.S.A., for the export of these solar cells. In terms of this agreement, M/s. Rexor Corporation will supply to BEL to raw materials, free of charge, for production of solar cells. M/s. Rexor Corporation will buy back the entire production of solar cells.

The manufacturing lines are expected to be installed by January, 1995. Trial production will commence in February 1995 and commercial production in March-April 1995. Export of solar cells is expected to start two or three months after successful commissioning and trial production.

Production in the first four years of operation is planned as under:—

Year of Operation	Annual Production
1st Year	1.125 MW
2nd Year	1.650 MW
3rd Year	2.000 MW
4th Year	2.250 MW

The yearly export is likely to reach a level of US \$ 2 million in the fourth year of operation.