

when completed, will provide subscriber trunk dialling facilities between these stations as well as other stations, which will be connected to these exchanges.

(b) The Trunk automatic exchanges at Madras, Bombay and Delhi are expected to be commissioned by the end of 1967. Subscriber trunk dialling facilities will then be available between some of the stations, Madras, Bangalore, Bombay, Poona, Ahmedabad, Delhi, Chandigarh, Jullundur, Full interconnection between these stations and extensions to other stations will be done progressively.

(c) Yes, for about three years. However, certain modifications to the Calcutta system to permit subscriber trunk dialling working into Calcutta is already on hand.

(d) The local exchanges at Calcutta are of a special type, called the "Director System". This system was adopted for Calcutta about twenty years ago and, at that time, it provided the most flexible and economical solution for automatizing the working of Calcutta and its environs. The technical features of this system are such that changes and modifications to circuits became necessary for introducing subscriber trunk dialling working. The problem was given high priority and necessary changes have been designed in India. The equipments were manufactured and tried out successfully. Full quantities of equipments for making the changes have been ordered on the Indian Telephone Industries and some of them have been delivered and the modifications are in hand.

Mechanisation of Accounts in Bombay Regional Office of Employees Provident Fund

1814. Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Umashah:
Shri K. Ramani:

Will the Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sub-committee of the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund looked into the problem of mechanisation of accounts in the Bombay Regional Office;

(b) whether the sub-committee submitted a report to the Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund on the usefulness, or otherwise, of mechanisation of the Provident Fund accounts with IBM assistance; and

(c) if so, the recommendations of the sub-committee and Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Committee has not made any specific recommendation. It has in its report to the Central Board of Trustees pointed out certain deficiencies on the part of the Regional Provident Fund Office, the IBM Organisation and the Industrial establishments as a result of which there has been delay in issue of accounts slips to the subscribers. The Committee has also given certain calculations which showed that processing by manual process would cost Rs. 15.69 lakhs a year as against Rs. 17.10 lakhs by IBM Machines. Action is being taken to remove the deficiencies in question and on scrutiny it has also been found that the calculations made by the Committee required correction and that the manual process was not cheaper. The report of the Committee was considered by the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund which has decided to continue to use the machines for the present. The Employees' Provident Fund is an autonomous Organisation and it can itself decide how it gets its accounting done.

Procurement of Equipment from U.S.A.

1815. Shri Manibhai J. Patel: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstar-