

(b) whether it is a fact that the technology of CIT-Alcatel is considered to be obsolete by some experts ;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government to these proposals ;

(d) whether the centre for Development of Telematics (CDOT) have not so far developed indigenous technology for setting up switching units ; and

(e) since when CDOT has been in existence and when it is likely to be in a position to set up switching units on its own without the help from a foreign company ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The French technology for digital telephone exchanges is being used in France and many other countries of the world.

(d) and (e) CDOT was established in August, 1984 and the development of Electronic Switching Systems is expected to be completed by August, 1987. CDOT is only a Centre for development and therefore will not be setting up or establishing manufacturing units of its own.

Conversion of Allahabad Telephone Exchange into Electronic Telephone Exchange

3276. SHRI AMITABH BACHCHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to replace the existing outmoded Telephone Exchange in Allahabad by an Electronic Exchange so as to ensure better telephone service to the citizens of that city ;

(b) if so, what steps have been initiated in this regard ; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir. The existing strowger telephone exchange will be replaced after the expansion of Allahabad-II Civil Lines-Penta

Conta Exchange from 2000 to 3000 lines in the 7th Plan period.

(b) and (c) 3000 lines Penta Conta equipment has been allotted for 1986-87 supply programme of ITI, Bangalore.

Electronic Telephone Instruments

3277. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of total Electronic Telephone Instruments required annually in the country ;

(b) whether Government have decided to set up a factory in the country in collaboration with a foreign country ; and

(c) if so, details of the agreement, such as cost, rate of monthly delivery and validity of the agreement, etc. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) This has not been assessed.

(b) and (c) Government have issued licences/letters of intent to State Electronic Corporations and private sector companies for the manufacture of Electronic telephones. M/s Siemens, West Germany, M/S ITT-FACE, Italy & M/S Ericsson, Sweden have been identified as the three foreign collaborators from whom the private sector and public sector companies will obtain technology for manufacture of electronic telephones.

Fertilizers plants under construction

3278. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new fertilizer plants under construction in different States ;

(b) the number of plants under construction in Madhya Pradesh ; and

(c) the expected time of the completion of those fertiliser plants ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) There are, at present, 15 new fertilizer plants at different stages of implementation/construction,