

Indian Telephone Industries Limited (ITI) and M/s. Kokusai Electric Company Ltd. of Japan for manufacture of Multi-Access Rural Radio Telephone System (MARR). The proposal envisages manufacture of MARR Systems for hilly and remote areas. 24 systems (providing for 600 remote telephones to be connected) will be produced per annum in ITI's Naini Unit near Allahabad. The sanctioned cost of the project is Rs. 97 lakhs. The implementation of the project is expected to start this year and completion achieved in 3 years.

#### Postal and Telegraphs Services in Manipur

3350. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the postal and telegraph services in the North Eastern region particularly in Manipur are far from satisfactory ;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to improve the situation ; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (c) It is not correct to say that postal services are far from satisfactory in N.E. Region particularly in Manipur area. There have, however, been occasional delays in transmission of mail in the interior of Manipur State but these are due to the irregular plying of mail carrying buses. The Government is aware that the Telegraph services are not very satisfactory. To improve the services, efforts are being made to minimise interruptions on circuits and introduce teleprinter working in main combined offices to speed up the transmission of telegrams.

#### Import of Electronic Exchanges

3351. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR . Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to import Electronics Exchanges from Japan/France during the current financial year ;

(b) if so, the number of Electronic Exchanges for which orders have been placed with those countries alongwith the dates on which the decisions were taken and orders placed ;

(c) the likely date by which the Exchanges would be received alongwith their cost etc. ; and

(d) the names of places, State wise in North-Western Circle where they would be installed ?

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

(b) and (c) Information furnished in the statement below.

(d) Names of places Statewise are indicated below.

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|-----------------------|--|
| (i) Haryana           | Nil  |
| (ii) Himachal Pradesh | 6 Small electronic exchanges at Bilaspur, Hamirpur, Nahan, Una, Chamba and Kulu. |
| (iii) Punjab          | One Digital Trunk Automatic Exchange at Jallundhar.                              |

## Statement

*Details of Electronic Exchanges being imported from Japan/France*

Sl. No.	Country from which being imported	No. of exchanges	Type of Exchanges.	Total FOB Cost	Likely delivery date (FOB)	Date of Issue of Letter of Intent/ Purchase Order.
1.	Japan	67	Small Electronic Exchanges.	Japanese Yen 1562.6 Million.	Last quarter of 1985-86	L.O.I. Issued on 2.4.85. Detailed Purchase Order under issue.
2.	France	16	Digital Trunk Automatic Exchange	French Francs 130.56 Million	(i) 5 exchanges in March, 1986. (ii) 11 exchanges during 1986-87.	Detailed Purchase Order issued on 19.5.84.

**Telephone Exchanges based on Satellite and Fire Optic Technology**

3352. SHRI MURLI DEORA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to replace old and inefficient telephone exchanges by exchanges based on the satellite and fibre optic technology (as in France, U.S.A. and Japan, in which a small millimetre diameter fibre carries 20,000 lines compared to very thick conventional wires ;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to import the technology for making optic fibres in India ; and

(c) whether for long-distance calls, the use of Microwave phone service proves cheaper according to the experience in advanced countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Satellite and fibre optic technologies are used to interconnect exchanges and not as a replacement of exchanges. There are proposals to exploit these technologies during the Seventh Plan.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Cost effectiveness of Microwave and other media for long distance call is a function of several variables such as

channel capacity required, distance and terrain etc. for certain situations involving the above factors, microwave systems prove cheaper.

**Investment in Cement Industry**

3353. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY & COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total capital on Indian Cement Industry as on 31st March, 1985 ; and

(b) the State-wise break-up of the above investment as on 31st March, 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) Capacity in cement industry has been gradually installed over the past 70 years. Some of the plants date back to 1915 and onwards. Additional installed capacity was added over a long period since then and the installed capacity as on 1.7.85 is 43.42 million tonnes. Information on the total capital invested in cement industry over this period, has, therefore, not been compiled. It is, therefore, difficult to indicate the total capital invested on cement industry as on 31.3.85. According to the current price level the average investment per tonne of cement ranges from Rs. 600 to Rs. 1500 depending on the size of the plant, technology adopted etc.