

OGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) 10,500 numbers of TV Decoders were imported.

(b) to (e). Based on a study conducted by Government, the French system 'Antiope' had been adopted for the introduction of Teletext services by Doordarshan. M/s Sofratey France, a French Government undertaking was an umbrella organisation on the French side associated with the installation of the system in India. It was considered appropriate to import the Decoders through them to ensure that the Decoders so procured are fully compatible with the selected system.

An officer of ET&T visited France only to finalise the shipment details etc. regarding the import just before placement of the formal order.

A warranty for a period of 12 months from the date of purchase by ET&T covering faults in material, workmanship and function was taken from the supplier.

Import of T.V. Decoders

5963. SHRI HET RAM:
SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI
KHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost involved in the purchase of the TV Decoders imported from France by Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation Limited;

(b) whether the number of the TV Decoders was raised to ten thousand from the initial proposal of the Ministry of Informa-

tion and Broadcasting to import only one thousand decoders;

(c) if so, the fact thereof;

(d) the number of the Decoders that have been sold out so far and the value of the remaining decoders; and

(e) the total loss suffered on this account and the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) The total cost of purchase of TV Decoders was Rs. 2.66 crores.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. Ministry of Information & Broadcasting had initially indicated the requirement to import 15,000 Decoders which was reduced to 10,500 only

(d) The number of TV Decoders sold so far is about 300 and the value of the remaining 10,200 decoders is approximately Rs. 2.58 crores.

(e) Steps are continuously being taken to improve the Teletext services with a view to make it more popular. Simultaneously, developmental and marketing efforts are being made to enhance acceptability to various users viz. hotels, Airlines, Travel Agents, banks, Share and Stock Brokers etc. With the above, it is expected that the sale of these Decoders at present lying with ET&T would pick up and hence, no loss has been suffered on this account.

Foreign Collaboration by WIPRO Information Technology Ltd.

5964. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: