

(c) Proposals for acquiring land for 136 telephone exchanges and construction of buildings for 102 exchanges during the Fifth Plan are under consideration. 13 buildings for post offices are under construction and proposals for construction of 22 buildings are under consideration. Subject to availability of funds, construction of buildings for other services would also be considered during the Fifth Plan period.

Grant of Foreign Exchange for Electronics Research Units . .

2539. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any proposal to grant foreign exchange for electronics research units; and

(b) if so, the main features of the proposal?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b). In the current import policy, special facilities are offered for import of capital goods and raw materials to all research organisations, which are applicable to electronic units also. Broadly, organisations or individuals who have registered themselves with the Ministry of Science and Technology are eligible for import of capital goods of a specialised nature for research and development purposes. Such equipment, after scrutiny by a Committee duly constituted for this purpose, is exempted from advertisement procedures normally applicable in such cases. In regard to raw materials, recognised R&D institutions are permitted to import items allowed to actual users or established importers upto ceiling of Rs. 25,000 per annum.

Temporary Telephone connections in Bombay

2540. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the alleged irregularities and charges of corruption levelled against the top Telephone authorities for giving temporary telephone connections in Bombay;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) to (c). The Chairman, Telephone Subscribers' Association, Bombay has recently complained to Government about the alleged irregularities in giving temporary telephone connections in Bombay. The Chairman of the Association has been requested to quote specific instances where such irregular telephone connections have been given in order to enable the Government to initiate purposeful enquiry. The Chairman's reply is awaited.

Preparation of Programmes for Satellite Instructional Television Experiment proposed to be conducted during 1975 and 1976

2541. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether preparation of programmes for the satellite instructional television experiment proposed to be conducted during 1975 and 1976 was reviewed at a high level meeting of Ministers concerned with the Prime