

the State Governments and Union Territories. However, a model scheme for the maintenance of these sets was drawn up and circulated to the State Governments for guidance. This scheme provides for periodical check up of the community sets installed at the listening centres. A number of States have set up maintenance organisations.

(c) There had been some difficulty in the maintenance of the community sets due to inadequate supply of the battery packs and sudden increase in the demand since the hostilities with Pakistan. The position has now eased considerably. The following steps have been taken to improve the position:

1. The manufacturing firm was persuaded to increase their production of battery packs;
2. Ministry of Industry and Department of Technical Development have taken steps to augment the capacity of the manufacturer. Steps are also being taken by them to expedite production by other firms which have been licensed to produce the battery packs; and
3. The Director General, Supplies & Disposals are considering the question of entering into a running contract with the manufacturers to ensure regular supply of the battery packs.

(d) Yes, Sir. Procurement against rate contract entered into by DGS&D ensures reasonable prices. State Govts. are on the list of Direct Demanding Officers.

(e) DGS&D regulate the supply of batteries for community receivers within the production capacity of the firm against the orders placed by the States.

Vehicles Factory at Jabalpur

1920. **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Dr. M. M. Das:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been made for the establishment of the vehicles factory at Jabalpur;

(b) the total estimated cost of the project and how much would be in foreign exchange; and

(c) whether any attempt has been made to overcome the foreign exchange difficulties by indigenous replacement?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) Administrative approvals for bulk of the civil works have issued. Site clearance has been completed and civil works are being progressed. Placing of orders for plant and machinery has commenced.

(b) Total estimated cost is about Rs. 32 crores, of which the foreign exchange element is about Rs. 9 crores.

(c) Import of plant and machinery is being undertaken only after ensuring that suitable machines are not available from indigenous sources.

Japanese Transmitter

1921. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to instal a 100-Kilowatts Japanese Transmitter to replace the present 5-Kilowatts one, in order to counter effectively the anti-Indian propaganda by China and Pakistan in the border areas;

(b) if so, the cost thereof; and

(c) when it will be installed?