

taken the stand that with 100% foreign equity, manufacture of sophisticated equipment by the company may be permitted but on the basis of 100% export; and also refurbishing of AS-IS equipment for sale/lease in India is being phased out. These and other activities of the company are currently under examination and will be governed by the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.

(b) and (c). No proposal has been received from the firm regarding the dilution of its equity. The question of Government taking any decision concerning this aspect does not therefore arise.

Steps taken by I.T.I. Bangalore to acquire latest knowledge

*359. SHRI P. K. DEO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state what steps have been taken by the Indian Telephone Industries, Bangalore to acquire the latest knowledge about the telephone industry in various fields?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDI): The Indian Telephone Industries Ltd., have laid considerable emphasis on research and development. The R. & D activities are being increased by the Company considerably, during the Fifth Five Year Plan period. A provision of Rs. 4.10 crores has been included in the Draft Fifth Five Year Plan for the purpose. The Company is keeping in touch with the latest development in the field of telecommunications in the advanced countries.

Acquiring Land for Calcutta Telephones

*360. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to acquire a costly land for Calcutta

Telephones at Chowringhee Road, Calcutta despite acute financial crisis;

(b) whether the land is situated at the fringe area of the concerned Calcutta Telephone Exchange;

(c) the facts regarding technical feasibility including cable laying programme; and

(d) under what consideration acquisition is being ordered?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY): (a) Government proposes to acquire 0.6 ares of land at 33A, Chowringhee Road, Calcutta through land acquisition proceedings.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Technical feasibilities have been examined.

(d) There is a concentration of demand for telephones in and around this area.

Issue of Licences to Entrepreneurs who Guarantee export of their Products

*361. SHRI S. N. MISRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to issue licences to those entrepreneurs who guarantee 60 per cent exports of their products within three months of the date of licence;

(b) if so, how many firms whose applications are already pending with Government for grant of licences have offered to meet the requirements for exports and the number of parties to whom licences have already been sanctioned under the said scheme;

(c) whether this scheme is also applicable in the case of monopoly houses; and

(d) if so, how many of them are being considered for the grant of licences?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND