

licences to be issued will depend on the likely demand for Mini Computers in the country and the merits of individual applications. A Panel on Mini Computers set up by the Department of Electronics has submitted its report which is under study in the Department. Licensing of Mini Computers will be carried out after the Electronics Commission has taken policy decisions in this area.

(b) and (c). The Electronics Corporation of India (ECIL) which is a Public Sector Undertaking under the Department of Atomic Energy is already manufacturing the TDC 312 Computers which is a mini-computer. BEL (Public Sector Undertaking under Ministry of Defence Production) are also undertaking the manufacture of Mini Computers. A project for setting up another manufacturing unit for Mini Computers in the Public Sector is also under consideration, as part of the Fifth Five Year Plan of the Department of Electronics; details have not been formulated as yet.

Instrumentation Unit in Palghat

2824. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:
SHRI C. H. MOHAMED
KOYA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have recently given final clearance to the proposed Instrumentation Unit in Palghat District of Kerala; and

(b) if so, a brief outline of the project as cleared by Government and the follow up action-taken on that direction together with the expected time schedule by which the factory is to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. B. RANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The establishment of the Palghat Plant at Kerala has already been entrusted to the Instrumentation Limited, Kota as its Second Unit. Manufacture of Control Valves, Safety Relief Valves and actuals, which will form part of turn-key provision of instrumentation system, will be undertaken at present. The Unit is being put up in technical collaboration with M/s. Yematake Honeywell of Japan. The proposed capital investment of the Plant will be Rs. 2.70 crores (excluding township) with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 75 lakhs. On attainment of full production, the Unit will be employing about 600 persons. The plant, on reaching full capacity will yield a turn-over of about Rs. 5.5 to 6 crores at the current price level.

The collaboration agreement has been signed on the 17th November, 1973. The lists of equipment, plant and machinery and test equipment have been finalised by the company in consultation with the foreign collaborators. Letters of Intent have already been placed for indigenous equipment. In regard to the imported capital equipment, the capital goods licence is being issued shortly and it is expected that orders will be placed soon. Construction work has commenced on the plant site. The main plant building design has been completed and it is expected that the tenders for construction will be awarded by the beginning of April, 1974. Simultaneously action is being taken in regard to the provision of water supply, power and other allied requirements necessary for the project. Skeleton staff is already in position at Palghat. Complete project team will be in position at Palghat sometime in April-May, 1974. Design and engineering work of the plant is at an advanced stage. Preliminary planning for all production activities has been started.

According to the present indications, the Project is likely to be commissioned around middle of 1975.