

**Internet connection to CEDT, Imphal**

1329. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received an application for providing a 64 kbps lease line internet connection to the Centre for Electronic Design and Technology of India, Imphal; and

(b) by when the facilities would be provided to the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) A Remote Access Server has been commissioned at Shillong and its linkage alongwith other associated equipments with the National Internet Backbone (NIB) node at Calcutta is likely to be completed in another month's time. The desired leased line will be provided immediately thereafter.

Meanwhile to meet the urgent requirement of CEDTI, a dedicated line from Imphal is being organized terminating on a PSTN Dial-up Internet Port at Shillong.

**Problems faced by Software and Hardware Units**

1330. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have discussed in depth the basic problems passed by the Software and Hardware units recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the memorandum received from the professional/industry organization alongwith action taken/proposed thereon;

(c) the details of major policy initiatives taken/under consideration to boost up investment and consequent growth of IT in India to emerge as global leader; and

(d) the details of steps taken/proposed to strengthen and upgrade technical institutional network in the country, State-wise alongwith joint ventures proposed?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Problems of the hardware and software units have been discussed by the