



U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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USTDA SUPPORTS INDIA'S EFFORTS TO EXPAND INTEGRATED EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

NEW DELHI (March 31, 2011) – In response to the Mumbai attacks in November 2008, the Government of India is greatly increasing its investment in homeland security and emergency response capabilities. In support of these efforts, USTDA is providing a grant to India's Ministry of Home Affairs to plan a pilot project for an integrated emergency communications system (IECS) in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, the sixth largest city in India.

India does not currently have a nationally standardized system that can manage emergency communications and services, like "911" in the United States. India has designated the exchange "108" as the national integrated emergency number and USTDA's support will help establish a national model for implementation of IECS throughout the country. The implementation of a national system holds the potential to open India's market for over \$800 million in exports of U.S. homeland security, emergency response and communication equipment and services.

The \$645,944 grant was conferred during a signing ceremony held at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, India. Mr. Blair Hall, Minister Counselor for Economics, Environment, Science and Technology Affairs at the U.S. Mission in New Delhi signed on behalf of the U.S. Government and Mr. Suresh Kumar, Joint Secretary at India's Ministry of Home Affairs signed on behalf of the Government of India. In addition to USTDA's grant, Optimal Solutions and Technologies, Inc. (OST), a U.S. provider of management consulting, information technology, and engineering services will also contribute additional resources toward the completion of the feasibility study.

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