

Hi-tech control room gets operational

By Edwin D'Sa/TNN

Pune: The last round of the Asia Pacific Rally Championship will be run to precise specifications to the last fraction of a second thanks to state of the art UHF (Ultra High Frequency) radio control equipment which has been brought in from Turkey for the event.

A three-member Rally of Turkey team set up base here at the Turf Club on

APRC RALLY Wednesday to assist the conduct of the rally thereby enhancing the efficiency of recording the timings.

The Rally of Turkey, which is a round of the World Rally Championship (WRC) has permitted the organisers of the MRF India Rally to use their timing equipment, radios as well as the Zero '0' car.



Mukund Bhute

HELLO, HELLO...TESTING TESTING: (From left): Serhan Acar, Murat Kaya, Ketan Mehta and Metin Geker get tuned in with the state-of-the-art ultra high frequency radio control equipment brought from Turkey at the Turf Club on Wednesday.

The equipment also includes timing apparatus from Tag Heuer, used at World Rally Championships.

The three-member

team present here from Turkey includes Metin Geker, C-O-C Rally of Turkey, Serhan Acar — media co-ordinator and Murat Kaya, who will be

driving the Subaru '0' car.

Ketan Mehta, communications expert of the Himalayan Rally Association (HRA), who are organisers of the MRF India Rally, says,

"This equipment is a boost for us to conduct the rally."

The high-tech gadgets will help in tracking schedules, record results from each stage and control the entire event with the help of the 60 odd radios.

Besides it will keep in touch with the '0' and '00' cars the safety cars 1 and 2, stage commander and FIV (First Intervention Vehicle). Radio control points are situated at every five kms in the stages.

Then there are the automatic sensor beams at the start and finish of every stage which will clock timings of the cars electronically for the first time down to pin point accuracy unlike to the manual way done previously.

The electronic timers will play a significant role during the Super Special Stages to be held at the Deccan College ground.