

## Robot operated parking facility at Indian Supreme Court!

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New Delhi, Feb 1- If lawyers have their way, the Supreme Court of India could soon have a multi-level robot-operated underground parking facility at its premises that could well be billed the first of its kind in the country.

A bench of Justices S H Kapadia and Aftab Alam today granted two weeks time to the newly-constituted interim body of the dissolved Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) to come out with the feasibility report on the proposal.

All that the car owner/driver needs to do is to swipe the specially designed electronic card at the entry for parking at the designated site.

The parking facility would be operated by robots which will pick up the vehicles and park them at the right place.

If it is a huge Mercedes Benz or BMW, the robot will pick up the vehicle and place it at the right slot fitting the vehicle's size. If it is an entry-level car like Maruti 800 or Santro, the robot will park the vehicle at the slot reserved for the cars of small segment.

The parking facility would have a capacity to hold at least 1,000 cars though our idea is now to increase the capacity to 2,000 cars, a member of the interim body and former SCBA president P H Parekh said.

Parekh said the facility might be created with the help of German experts and apart from existing Supreme Court lawns, it was planned to extend the underground parking network upto the Indian Law Institute located opposite.

The bench also wanted to know from SCBA interim body what would be the source of funding and the liability vis-a-vis the lawyers. It wondered whether the proposal had the approval of the general body as the present SCBA body had been dissolved due to internal strife.

The bench, while directing the counsel to come out with the feasibility report, also asked them to examine the model adopted by the Delhi High Court where construction of a multi-level parking has already commenced but would be manually operated.