

Ministry of Home Affairs, who deal with this subject, have intimated that they have not issued any instructions/guidelines regarding the display of portraits/photographs of national leaders including the President and the Prime Minister of India. The matter has been left to the Heads of Departments to decide whether they should at all exhibit any portraits/photographs in the office premises/rooms and, if so, of which particular leader so as to ensure that no controversy arises out of the display of any of these portraits.

[Translation]

#### National Policy on Food Processing

1779. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA :  
SHRI G.R. SARODE :  
SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the national policy on food processing has not yet been finalised;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to review the policy on deep sea fishing; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) and (b) The Food Processing Industry is being developed within the broad parameters of the Industrial Policy of the Government. A framework for developing the new policy measures to address various issues for accelerated development of Food Processing Industries has been prepared which was discussed with the State Government representatives. Action has been initiated for pursuing it further.

(c) and (d) On the recommendations of the Review Committee, the New Deep Sea Fishing Policy of 1991 has been rescinded whereas charter policies are already being phased out. Action has also been initiated to formulate a new deep sea fishing policy.

[English]

#### Freight Equalisation System

1780. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :  
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that freight equalisation system in the Railways has been introduced all over the country;

- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Railway freight per tonne of steel is Rs. 1900/- of any steel factory in the Eastern region states and only Rs. 900 per tonne in Maharashtra and Gujarat; and

- (d) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to remove these discrepancies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) The requisite information is being collected.

#### Supply of High Range Computers

1781. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR :  
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :  
DR. ASIM BALA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Foreign Investment Promotion Board has approved M/s Cray Research of USA for supply of high range computers for weather forecast;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for not approving an indigenous company; and
- (c) the policy of the Government to promote indigenous industries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) has only approved the proposal of M/s. Cray Research Inc., U.S.A. for setting up a 100% subsidiary in India with an investment of Rs. 35 lakhs for, inter-alia, providing hardware and software support to its customers and for promoting its products and services.

(c) Policy measures taken by the Government to boost electronics industry in the country are given in the enclosed Statement. Apart from these, with the support of Government, High Performance Computers have been developed indigenously at a number of Governmental organisations which are being used. These developments are intended to be encouraged through appropriate policy measures.

#### Statement

*Policy measures taken to boost the growth of Electronics Industry in the country*

- (i) Policy initiatives like exemption from locational limitations, abolition of licensing, abolition of phased manufacturing programme and amendment to the MRTP Act to facilitate investments.

- (ii) Liberalisation of Export-Import Policy by allowing free access to imported capital goods, value based advanced licensing scheme etc.
- (iii) Rationalisation of fiscal policy especially in the areas of duty structure, corporate taxation etc.
- (iv) Introduction of the Software Technology Park Scheme which seeks to provide infrastructural facilities for small software houses to enter the export market. The scheme also gives the flexibility to set up private STPs which can be done by bigger companies taking advantage of the duty free facilities offered for import of CG etc.
- (v) Introduction of the Electronics Hardware Technology Park Scheme (EHTP) designed to meet the specific requirements of a globally oriented electronics sector. This would provide a flexible policy environment that would greatly enhance the ease of doing business and making professional access to the vast Indian domestic market as an incentive for export production in the country.
- (vi) Encouraging foreign collaboration for investment and technology. This includes automatic approval for foreign direct investment upto 51% foreign equity in high priority industries and automatic permission for foreign technology agreements in such industries with certain ceiling on payments.
- (vii) Encouragements to NRIs and Overseas Corporate Bodies predominantly owned by NRIs to invest in India. This includes automatic approval upto 100% equity in priority industries.
- (viii) Implementation of a quality infrastructure programme called the Standardization, Testing & Quality Certification (STQC) Programme to promote the quality of Indian electronic goods.
- (ix) Participation in and sponsoring of seminars, exhibitions, business delegation etc. abroad and in India.
- (x) Establishment of a Software Services Support and Education Centre to improve the quality of Indian Software.

#### Allotment of Coal to State Electricity Boards

1782. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :  
SHRI VIJAY HARISHCHANDA PATEL :  
SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria followed by the Central Electricity Authority for allotment of coal to various State Electricity Boards; and

(b) the other functions of the Central Electricity Authority ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The coal linkage to power plants is determined based on the generation target. With the introduction of cash and carry Scheme, the actual supply of coal to a power plant depends on the advance payments made to the concerned collieries and the railways for the supply and transportation of coal.

(b) The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) assists the Ministry of Power in all technical, financial and economic matters. The functions entrusted to the CEA and the details to be performed are indicated below :

1. To develop a sound, adequate and uniform national power policy, formulate short-term and perspective plans for power development and coordinate the activities of planning agencies in relation to the control and utilisation of national power resources;
2. To act as arbitrators in matters arising between the State Government or the Board and a licensee or other person as provided in the Act;
3. To collect and record the data concerning generation, distribution and utilisation of power and carry out studies relating to cost, efficiency, losses, benefits and such like matters;
4. To make public from time to time information secured under the Act and to provide for the publication of reports and investigation;
5. To advise any State Government Board, Generating Company or another agency engaged in generation and/or supply of electricity on such matters as will enable such Government Board, Generating Company or agency to operate and maintain the power system under its ownership or control in an improved manner and where necessary in coordination with any other agency owing or having the control of another power system;
6. To promote and assist in the timely completion of schemes sanctioned under Chapter V of the Act;
7. To make arrangement for advancing the skill of persons engaged in the generation and supply of electricity;