

these countries is estimated at Rs. 15.91 crores. (approx).

(c) to (e) This Ministry has not received information from Indian Missions in Africa and South America about any country not taking interest in these projects.

[English]

INDIGENISATION IN DEFENCE PROJECTS

1492. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to accelerate the pace of indigenisation in defence projects; and

(b) the impact thereof on the economy?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Indigenisation in Defence projects is an ongoing process. Steps being taken by the Government to accelerate the pace of indigenisation in defence projects include the following:—

- (i) The capacity available in the civil sector is being increasingly utilised to widen the base of indigenous production.
- (ii) The Defence Production Units have time-bound targets for reducing import content in equipments produced by them and their performance in this regard is being monitored in the Ministry.
- (iii) Task Groups have been set up for identification and quantification of spares for maintenance/overhaul of a number of defence equipments in order to formulate time-bound plan for indigenisation of spares.

(b) As a result of various steps taken for accelerating the pace of indigenisation in defence projects, there is a greater degree of self-reliance and lesser dependence on imports in respect of items which are indigenised.

NEWS ITEM "ENTREPRENEURS SORE OVER SBI ROLE"

1493. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:

SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:

SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:

Will the minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Entrepreneurs sore over SBI role" appearing in the "Hindustan Times" dated July 13, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) SBI has reported that certain vague and general allegations have been made by two associations, namely DSIDC Entrepreneurs Welfare Association, Nangloi, Delhi and Jhilmil Tahirpur Manufacturers Welfare Associations (Regd.) Shabdara, Delhi claiming to represent Small Scale Industrial Units in Delhi, and one organisation, Poorvanchal Club, on behalf of agriculturists/poultry units in the Haryana/Delhi area. The complainants, however, have neither quoted any specific instances or provided details, nor have they come forward to discuss the matter with SBI, who had contacted them in the matter.

(c) SBI have indicated that while suitable action as per procedures laid down is always taken whenever any individual case of harassment or corruption is noticed, action cannot be taken on general allegations not supported by facts.