

[Translation]

Foreign Investment

4501. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether as a result of liberalisation and opening the door for foreign investment the various State Governments had gone abroad to invite foreign investment; and

(b) the details of States which got success in this regard and the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) As per information available with the Ministry, delegations from various State Governments have gone abroad for purposes of attracting foreign direct investment in the State.

(b) The details of success by various State Governments in this regard and the inflow of foreign direct investment as a result of such foreign visits is not separately maintained by this Ministry.

[English]

Supply of Coal by C.I.L.

4502. SHRI B. DHARMABIKSHAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Ltd. is capable to meet the requirement of coal to the cement and steel industries;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken for adequate supply of coal to those industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c). There is a gap between demand and availability of coking coal required for metallurgical purpose including that of the steel sector. Domestic production of coking coal of the quality required for the metallurgical use is not adequate to meet the domestic demand and this gap has to be bridged by imports. Some import of superior grade of coking coal is also necessitated for blending purposes on quality considerations.

Modernisation of existing washeries as well as construction of new washeries is being taken up to augment availability of indigenous coking coal supplies to steel plants.

As a result of the higher priority given for supply of coal to the power sector and as a result of transport constraints, supplies of coal to the industrial consumers including that to cement plants has been affected.

Coal companies are, however, endeavouring to meet the requirements of all consumers in the country including cement plants by increasing production of coal. In addition coal from a number of collieries is being offered under the Liberalised Sales Scheme (LSS) under which scheme coal is supplied without the requirement of linkages/sponsorship. Option of import of coal is also available. Cement plants are also allowed to take up mining for coal for their captive consumption.

Export and Import Growth of STC/MMTC

4503. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI:
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:
SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the export and import growth of State Trading Corporation and the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the working and profitability of State Trading Corporation and the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. is far from satisfaction;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have reviewed the functioning of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC) and the State Trading Corporation (STC);

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to make MMTC and STC economically viable and profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLABULLI RAMAIAH): (a) The export and import effected by State Trading Corporation (STC) and the MMTC Ltd. during each of the last three years is as follows:-

Year	(Rs. crores)			
	MMTC		STC	
	Export	Import	Export	Import
1993-94	1371.3	1699.3	798	239
1994-95	1368.3	3662.1	806	965
1995-96(P)	1320.0	4390.0	749	858

(b) and (c). The working and profitability of STC/MMTC is satisfactory. Despite decanalisation of some major items, increase in global competition, STC and MMTC have diversified their activities and increase their non canalised