

**Demand by Newspaper Industry for  
Additional Imports**

4569. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has rejected the demand made by the newspaper industry for additional imports to clear the backlog of nearly 60,000 tonnes;

(b) if so, whether in view of the pressure on foreign exchange resources, Government are not in favour of sanctioning more funds to meet the backlog of previous years;

(c) if so, whether this decision has greatly affected the newspaper industry;

(d) whether the newspaper industry has requested to release the amount in full to meet the backlog; and

(e) whether any via media is being found to help the newspaper industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). The requirement of various commodities to be imported to supplement indigenous availability is decided upon after considering various factors, keeping in view the severe constraints on foreign exchange resources. As regards newsprint, a quantity of 2.12 lakh tonnes was decided to be imported in 1984-85 and the necessary foreign exchange for this purpose was also released. The allocation policy, actual allocation of newsprint and other related issues regarding the newspaper industry are dealt with by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

**British Investment in India**

4570. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the British investment is likely to increase as a result of the Union Government's decision to go in for high technology in different areas;

(b) if so, whether British investors have shown more interest to invest in by Union Government; and

(c) if so, the extent of British investment expected during 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Government's policy towards foreign investment and collaboration continues to be selective and this was reiterated in the Technology Policy Statement of January, 1983. Investments from British sources are welcome within the parameters of this policy. However, since investment decisions are taken by foreign investors on the basis of their own assessment and criteria, it is not possible to quantify the extent of investment which is likely to be made during any particular year.

**Record Achievement of Export Sales  
by STC in 1983-84**

4571. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has achieved an all-time high record of Rs. 796 crores in export sales in 1983-84 as compared to Rs. 631 crores in the previous year;

(b) if so, the details of the overall performance of STC during 1983-84;

(c) the extent to which the performance in 1984-85 has been increased by the State Trading Corporation;

(d) if so, the methods adopted to fulfill the export targets set for 1984-85; and

(e) to what extent it helped in the overall performance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of the STC performance during 1983-84 are as under :