

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has any proposal to import of kerosene as reported in the *Economics Times* dated July 13, 1995;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to supply kerosene to the common people at reasonable price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) In December, 1994, State Trading Corporation (STC) approached Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) for utilising IOC's storage facilities for storage of imported Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO). However, IOC regretted its inability, since it did not have spare storage capacity available at Bombay and Kandla for being offered to STC. However, as part of diversification of its trade activities efforts are being made by STC to arrange suitable storage tanks of adequate capacity alongwith necessary infrastructural facilities at major ports for storage and distribution of SKO. The imports will be arranged by STC subject to availability of such infrastructure and economic viability of operations.

(c) Under the administered pricing policy of petroleum products, the prices of products like kerosene used by the common people are subsidised.

Economic Reforms

3436. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister met the captains of Industry-Presidents of three chambers of Commerce on the July 31, 1995 to discuss the progress of economic reforms and ways to further them;

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussions held with him; and

(c) the action taken and proposed to be taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). The Prime Minister of India met leading industrialists, captains of industry and Presidents of Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on 1st August, 1995 and not on 31st July 1995. The issues discussed at the meeting mainly related to the development of social infrastructure and improvement of the living standards of the poor. Industry pledged its support and cooperation to Government towards this end.

(c) The suggestions of individuals Associations and organisations are kept in view while formulating appropriate Government Policies.

[Translation]

IDBI Assistance to Entrepreneurs of States

3437. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :
SHRI KUNJEE LAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the applications received by the Industrial Development Bank of India from the entrepreneurs of Bihar and Rajasthan during the last three years, Statewise;

(b) the number of the applications admitted & rejected during the above period and the reasons behind rejecting these applications; and

(c) the details of the financial assistance provided by the Industrial Development Bank of India to the industries located in the above State during the said period, Unit wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). The details of applications received, sanctioned and rejected under direct finance schemes of the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) in the States of Bihar and Rajasthan during the last three years are given below :

	BIHAR		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Applications received	29	14	19
Applications sanctioned	20	12	13
Applications rejected & withdrawn/closed	1	-	-
	RAJASTHAN		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Applications received	72	89	137
Applications sanctioned	59	66	104
Applications rejected/ withdrawn/closed	-	1	1

IDBI has reported that the rejection of applications was on account of non-viability of the projects.

(c) The details of assistance sanctioned by IDBI under Direct Project Finance Scheme to industries in Bihar and Rajasthan during the above period are given below: