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 Governmet 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 industriallists, 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.

Written Answers

[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 Awithdrawr closed	1 √	-	-	

RAJASTHAN

	1992-93	<u>1993-94</u>	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:

Assistance Sanctioned

			(Rs. crores)
		Bihar	Rajasthan
1992-93		123.8	428.1
1993-94		60.9	394.3
1994-95	•	35.8	567.9

However, in accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing public sector banks and financial institutions as also the provisions of Public Finance Institutions (obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, the unit wise details cannot be divulged.

[English]

Turn-Over of MMTC

3438. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total turnover of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(b) whether there is any decline in trading activities of M.M.T.C.; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to widen the activities of MMTC to regain the lost ground?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The total turnover of MMTC during last three years is as under:

(Rs in million)

	(113. 11 11111011)
Year	Turnover
1992-93	51224.4
1993-94	32173.5
1994-95	52625.9 (Provisional)

Country-wise exports/imports by MMTC during 1991-92: 1992-93 and 1993-94 are annexed in the statement. The decline in trading activities has been due to decanalisation of a number of products.

(c) To increase its turnover, Government is encouraging MMTC to diversify into agro/marine products, textiles, leather, chemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals apart from consolidating its activities in minerals, metals, fertilizers, diamonds, gems and jewellery. MMTC is also developing captive supply bases by selectively investing in export oriented joint ventures.

Export Majo	or Countrie	es (Rs./Millio	on)
COUNTRY	*1993-94	1992-93	1991-92
JAPAN	4598	6054	5051
SOUTH KOREA	1545	1724	1805
USA	1270	1721	1994
CHINA	1147	1174	1313
UAE	936	832	698
UK	782	778	824
GERMANY	643	874	961
CZECH. REPUBLIC	448	1	2
PAKISTAN	313	299	370
SINGAPORE	307	222	204
JORDAN	255	422	1138
SWITZERLAND	207	292	331
NETHERLANDS	177	117	158
HONG KONG	131	233	317
TUNISIA	115	18	-
INDONESIA	78	29	183
AUSTRALIA	74	41	30
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	70	-	-
USSR/CIS	64	16	3
FRANCE	61	198	266
MALAYSIA	53	79	156
OTHERS	439	1624	2161
TOTAL	13713	16748	17865
Imports	from Majo	r Countries	
COUNTRY *1	993-94	1992-93	1991-92

COUNTRY	*1993-94	1992-93	1991-92
SWITZERLAND	4852	2452	775
CIS	2886	5288	3801
LIBYA	2094	164	-
QATAR	1579	753	807
SAUDI ARABIA	1470	1280	2150
UAE	594	242	142
ZAMBIA	319	32	121
U.K.	316	380	254
INDONESIA	249	152	234
JORDAN	247	2587	3709
BANGLADESH	237	44	-
ROMANIA	218	9	-
AUSTRALIA	182	232	102
GERMANY	136	2542	3956
ZAIRE	132	227	159

*Country-wise Import-Export figures for 1994-95 are under completion.

Written Answers