

'Cold Fusion' Developed by Scientists of USA

3136. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of research being conducted by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre or by the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research or any other research institute of the country into the process known as "Cold Fusion" developed by the Scientists of Utah University of USA; and

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to encourage the research or to obtain the views of Scientists abroad and in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b). The Government is aware of the so called phenomenon of cold fusion which was first revealed in 1989 by two scientists of the University of Utah. Following this announcement some scientists of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research have carried out experiments to investigate and understand this phenomenon. Preliminary results of these studies to suggest that some small anomalous effects may be occurring in deuterated metallic samples of palladium and titanium. However, the evidence gathered so far is inadequate to pinpoint the exact nature of the processes occurring. Our scientists are in contact with their contemporaries abroad and are following their work closely.

Top Industrial Houses

3137. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH:
DR. A.K. PATEL:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the assets and income of top twenty Industrial Houses during 1989-90, 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 separately;

(b) the profit earned by these houses during the above period;

(c) the extent of rise in their assets which these houses had ten years ago;

(d) whether the profit before tax has remained disproportionately low in relation to the steep rise in assets and incomes; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the remedial steps proposed to be taken in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). A statement showing the house-wise break-up in respect of assets, total income (including turnover) and profit before tax in 1989-90 (Latest year) and assets in 1980 of the top twenty Industrial Houses ranked according to their assets in 1989-90 is given in the attached statement.

The assets of the top twenty Industrial Houses increased from Rs.6,547 crores in 1980 to Rs. 41,523 crores in 1989-90 (including assets of two new groups) i.e. during the last 10 years.

(d) The profit before tax as percentage of assets and income during the period 1980 and 1989-90 was as follows:

	1980	1989-90
Profit percentage to Assets (excluding new group)	8.07%	5.32%
Profit percentage to total income including turnover (excluding new group)	5.79%	4.95%

(e) The lower percentage of profit in relation to assets in 1989-90 may be due to

installation of assets which were not fully utilised in production during the year.

STATEMENT

Assets, Total Income (including Turnover) and Profit Before Tax in 1980-90 and Assets in 1980 of Companies Registered under section 26 of the MRTP Act and belonging to the top twenty Industrial Houses ranked according to their assets in 1989-90.

Sl. No	Industrial House	(Rs. in Crores)			
		1989-90	1980	Assets	Assets
		Total Income (including Turnover)	Profit Before Tax		
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Tata	8530.93	8079.80	594.42	1538.97
2.	Birla	8473.35	8417.41	439.55	1431.99
3.	Reliance	3600.27	1901.11	87.36	166.33
4.	Thapar	2177.15	2280.59	109.78	348.06
5.	J.K. Singhania	2139.00	1786.93	35.74	412.72
6.	Larsen & Toubro	1681.52	1128.26	62.47	216.03
7.	Modi	1399.37	2009.35	23.09	198.82
8.	Bajaj	1391.06	1907.87	133.88	179.26
9.	Mafatlal	ab43.55	1765.84	85.58	427.54
10.	M.A. Chidambaram	1273.35	1161.47	38.78	43.81
11.	Hindustan Lever	1209.46	2396.60	203.73	219.30

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No	Industrial House	1989-90			1980
		Assets	Total Income (including Turnover)	Profit Before Tax	Assets
1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	United Breweries	1189.24	1227.50	36.63	96.90
13.	T.V. S. Iyenger	1177.10	1388.41	59.80	188.64
14.	I.T.C.	965.13	2749.70	122.88	156.29
15.	Shri Ram	933.93	1445.40	2.07	274.51
16.	A.C.C.	902.72	1223.38	2.07	274.51
17.	Oswal Agro	870.34	417.33	35.75	New Group
18.	Mahindra & Mahindra	773.55	1022.45	20.07	186.03
19.	Essar	756.49	244.35	34.82	New Group
20.	Kirloskar	735.51	985.46	45.36	220.37

Notes: 1. The assets of Industrial House of M.A. Childambaram at Sl.No. 10 include those of Southern Petrochemical Industries Corporation Ltd since 1985.

2. The assets of industrial house of Hindustan Lever at sl.No. 11 include those of the erstwhile Brooke Bond Industrial House since 1986-87.

3. The assets of United Breweries Industrial House at sl.No. 12 includes those of the erstwhile "Best & Crompton Industrial House since 1988-89.