

either at Head Office or at the nominated location, the Ministry of Communications had agreed to expeditiously sanction one temporary telephone/telex connection on the recommendation of the Ministry of Commerce.

- (5) The Reserve Bank of India has issued instructions that applications for release of foreign exchange received from green card holding 100% EOUs would be handled on a priority basis and disposed of expeditiously within a maximum of four working days.
- (6) In the matter of supply of iron and steel for construction purposes, green card holding 100% EOUs would be treated on par with customer coming under status 'A' (Highest Group). Export Commissioner in the Ministry of Commerce has been nominated to recommend requests to the Joint Plant Committee, Calcutta and to coordinate demand for iron and steel from 100% EOUs.
- (7) The Department of Civil Aviation has issued instructions to Air India, Indian Airlines, International Airports Authority of India and Director General Civil Aviation to accord priority treatment to 100% EOUs holding green cards in the matter of transport facility by air.
- (8) Green card holding approved 100% EOUs in the small scale sector would be treated on par with units in the medium/large scale sector in the matter of allocation of levy cement for factory construction from central quota.
- (9) IOBI has issued instructions to financial institutions to charge 1½% less interest from approved 100% EOUs on loans sanctioned to them subject to certain conditions.

Note : The units availing facilities/benefits under the 100% EOU scheme are required to be approved by the Board of Approval headed by Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.

U.S. Investment in India

2821. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any possibility of increasing US investment in India with the recent visit of Prime Minister to U.S.A.; and

(b) what effort is being made to make the people of the US, particularly trade and industry, know about India and India's capabilities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Recent press reports indicate an increasing awareness in US of our investment and foreign collaboration policies. US investments and collaborations will be welcome within the parameters of our policies.

(b) Several steps are taken for this by various agencies of the Government, including dissemination of information regarding our industrial policies and capabilities and guidance to prospective investors/collaborators by the Indian Investment Centre which has an office in New York.

Incentive to State Governments for better Financial Management

2822. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether his Ministry gives any incentives to State Governments for better financial management;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether his Ministry would introduce some incentives to encourage State Governments to have better financial management ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The question of providing incentives for better financial management does not arise as all the States are expected to manage their finances in such a manner as to avoid