

Steps are also being taken to intensify export promotion activities and commercial publicity in the important markets like USA, France etc., to increase exports of traditional as well as non-traditional products.

(c) The export target for the current financial year, 1985-86, has been fixed at Rs. 11,736 crores.

[English]

Reluctance of Multi-National Corporations to Make Equity Investment in Developing Countries

1668. SHRI BAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that multi-national corporations are reluctant to make equity investment in developing countries including India and only concentrating on providing financial resources such as managing technology and marketing and thereby shifting the investment risk to the host countries;

(b) whether Government have studied in depth the new trend in their investment strategy in Indian context and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering any proposal to adopt strategy to take the multi-national as partners and not as creditors; and

(d) whether this new trend of investment strategy adopted by multi-nationals stand in the way against transfer of high technology to India and the other developing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) & (b) Government is not aware of any such strategy on the part of multi-national corporations.

(c) & (d) Government's foreign investment policy is selective and is designed

to channelise investment into areas which will reinforce our own efforts to accelerate the country's economic growth. We are therefore, looking for foreign investment primarily in areas which require sophisticated technology or where critical production gaps exist or which would help expand our export potential. Foreign investment is regarded by us more as an instrument for securing much-needed sophisticated technology than as a device for acquiring foreign capital. This has been reiterated in the Technology Policy Statement of 1983.

Agreement by STC for Supply of Rice

1669. SHRI JANAKRAJ GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the foreign countries, with whom the State Trading Corporation had entered into agreements to supply rice during the years 1983-84 and 1984-85; and

(b) what are the profits earned or loss incurred by the STC from the supply of rice during the above mentioned period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) During 1983-84, the State Trading Corporation did not enter into any contract for export of Basmati Rice. During 1984-85 the Corporation entered into contracts for export of Basmati Rice to Abu Dhabi, Kuwait, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and France.

(c) State Trading Corporation charged customary service charge ranging from 1% to 2% of the f.o.b. or C&F value as the case may be.

Appointment of Non-official Directors/Chairmen of Nationalised Banks

1670. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) how many non-official Directors/Chairmen are appointed on each of the nationalised banks;