

Encouragement to foreign companies in expansion programme in field of Electronics

2987. SHRI SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have declared that it would not encourage foreign equity companies to expand their activities in the field of Electronics in India;

(b) whether the Philips India is being granted a vast expansion programme; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Government policy in regard to the expansion of companies with substantial foreign equity is regulated by the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act, 1973. Broadly, Government have announced that such an expansion will not be encouraged except where there is significant gain through exports or by introduction of sophisticated technology which would be difficult to obtain otherwise except at a higher cost and greater time delays.

(b) and (c). The proposals now being made by the Philips (India) Ltd. for the expansion of their existing capacities or for production of new items are being considered in the light of the above Government policy.

Report of Committee on National Institute of Design

2988. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Review Committee on the National Institute of Design,

Ahmedabad has since submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) the decision taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement giving the major recommendations of the Committee is enclosed. Copies of the Review Committee Report have already been sent to the Parliament Library.

(c) The recommendations of the Committee are under active consideration of the Government.

Statement

Statement giving briefly the salient recommendations made by the Thapar Committee:—

1. Finding the right Director and giving him the beset opportunity for functioning must be the first task of the new Governing Council.

2. The existing nuclear of staff could be expanded and recognised to fulfil the recommendations of this report.

3. The Institute must prepare the student for a rewarding professional career. The teacher—student ratio must be such as to foster high quality standards. The net for students has to be cast for more widely than at present and the programmes better matched to existing career opportunities.

4. A suitable student habitation must be given top priority.

5. Students should serve a period of internship either at an extension centre or elsewhere.

6. It has been proposed that the membership of the Government Council be broad-based.

7. A number of committees, under the Governing Council have been proposed including a Standing Committee and Committees for personnel finance and budget, buildings and works and selection.

8. A frame work for salaries and staff regulations has been recommended by the management institutions. The Report suggests that the Governing Council and the Director should study it as an illustrative scheme and devise their own Staff regulations to suit the NID's character.

9. Plans & Programmes.

Programme would include:

- (i) Educational;
- (ii) training;
- (iii) research;
- (iv) service;
- (v) consultancy; and
- (vi) extension.

10. The report recommends the preparation of a detailed project report by the institute and also provides a scheme for recurring and capital expenditure.

11. The NID must be declared by the Government an institution of national importance to enable it to award degrees, diplomas etc.

12. The Institute would offer a three year basic course with various specialisations thereafter. These specialisations would cover one or two years, depending on the subject. Thus, the Institute would offer a five year programme, qualifying students for a particular specialisation. Graduates in technology or architecture would take the three years basic course and qualify for a post-graduate degree/diploma.

13. In the short-term the emphasis must be on an outward movement of personnel based on the needs of external institutions, industries and Government.

14. Long-term, selected groups should be brought to NID for more intensive and specific exposure.

15. The NID must initiate its own research and undertake assignments for others and cover both fundamental and applied research.

16. Projects and assignments should have relevance to the institute's teaching and research programmes. There must be a separate division for this purpose. Payments should be made to the Institute but a formal system evolved for distribution of a portion of the fees. The payments should mainly help fund NID research and part of it may be spent on improving amenities. The division must be self supporting.

17. The benefits of designs must be quickly demonstrated. A liaison facility needs to be established within the NID which will be in-charge of external Communication and fee back.

18. Extension centres should be set up in metropolitan cities in association with State Small Scale Industry establishments.

Recruitment of more staff by DESU to reduce payment of overtime to staff

2989. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether DESU pays annually Rs. 1 crore as over-time to its staff;

(b) whether this is one of the reasons for the poor financial position of the undertaking;

(c) whether Government have considered the desirability of recruiting more hands against the financial allocations for over-time and reduce work load on the existing staff; and