

(c) the success achieved and likely to be achieved thereby in resurrecting the sick Public Sector Undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) to (c) Enterprise specific measures are taken by the Government for revival/rehabilitation of PSUs. Sick industrial PSUs, whose networth has become negative are registered with BIFR for formulating appropriate revival/rehabilitation packages. Of the 65 CPSUs referred to BIFR as on 31.12.1998, revival packages have been sanctioned for 22 cases. These revival packages often include capital and other modes of restructuring including conversion of loan into equity, besides other reliefs and concessions.

Overhauling of Anti-Dumping Duty Structure

778. SHRI MADAN PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the task force on administrative and legal simplifications has recommended a complete overhauling of the present anti-dumping duty structure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have gone through the recommendations of the task force; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) The task force on administrative and legal simplification has *inter-alia* recommended that there should be a change in the regulations by making it obligatory on the dumping company/country to disprove the charge of dumping. The process of imposition of anti-dumping duty should be compressed within a period of three months.

(c) Yes, Sir. The proposal has been examined by the Ministry of Commerce.

(d) The Anti-dumping Rules in India are based on the agreement of implementation of Article 6 of GATT 1994. The rules clearly require prima facie evidence of dumping, injury and causal link to be established before initiation of investigations. Once the anti-dumping case has been initiated, it is necessary that the exporters disprove the charge of dumping, therefore, there does not seem to be any necessity to change the regulation to provide for this. The present procedure is also as per the WTO agreements.

As per the Rules, provisional duties can be imposed only after a minimum of 60 days, after initiation of a case. However, due to the need to give sufficient time to the concerned parties to respond to the initiation of proceedings, and to investigate the case, the normal time taken to impose provisional duties in India is around seven months. This compares favourably with the time taken by the European Union, where it has been observed that in practice provisional duties are levied only after 7-10 months. It would be practically impossible to compress the process of imposition of anti-dumping duty within a period of three months. The Government will, however, take further steps to further compress the period of imposition of provisional duties as far as possible taking into account the necessity to follow due processes and transparent procedure.

Borrowings for Construction of Houses

779. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plans to infuse funds from abroad through the Foreign Direct investment route by granting access to international finance;

(b) whether the FICCI suggested FDI to play a crucial role in the housing sector and the investments should be on reportable basis of principle, profits and dividends;

(c) whether the FICCI also wanted that the limit on allocation of incremental deposits by hands in the housing sector be doubled to 3% from 1.5;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in regard thereto;

(e) whether the Government propose to allow 100% Income Tax deduction of interest on borrowings for acquisition on construction of houses for occupation by individuals and HUF; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.