

strategy for the viable subsidiaries of NTC alongwith viable mills under them, keeping in view the BIFR norm of the networth of these mills turning positive with in the period prescribed by BIFR. The interest of the workers will be kept in view in the revival plan.

[Translation]

Target Fixed for Foreign Capital Investment

2665. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foreign capital investment has been less than the target fixed in this regard during 1998-99 despite announcement of changes effected in the policies with a view to promoting liberalisation policy of the Government.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the target fixed in this regard and the actual foreign investment made in the country, till December, 1998 and the foreign capital investment made, till December, 1997 during 1996-97; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to meet the target ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) to (d) No target is fixed for Foreign Direct Investment. The FDI approvals and inflow are calculated on calender year basis. The FDI inflow for the years 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998 are given below :-

(Rs. in crore)

Year	FDI Approval (Including GDR)	FDI Inflow (Including GDR)
1995	32072	6820
1996	36147	10389
1997	54891	16425
1998	30814	13320

[English]

Coal/Mineral based Industry

2666. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :
PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated a pilot project scheme to establish coal/mineral based industries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, particularly in the desert areas of Rajasthan ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) and (b) A pilot project meant for proving and commercialising the technology developed for exploitation of indigenous reserves of Nickel is jointly being set up by Hindustan Zinc Limited and Council of scientific and Industrial Research in Orissa at a cost of Rs. 8 crores. A number of coal based industries, particularly cement, already exist in Rajasthan.

(c) The question does not arise.

Cotton Production

2667. SHRI SHANTI LAL CHAPLOT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be please to state :

(a) the details of the cotton produced in the country during the last three years, year-wise, and

(b) the measures being adopted by the Government to encourage farmers for more production of cotton ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) The details of the cotton produced in the country during the last three years are as under :

Year	Production (in lakh bales of 170 kg each)
1995-96	169.20
1996-97	177.90
1997-98*	158.00

(* As estimated by the Cotton Advisory Board in its meeting held on 18.2.1999)

(b) To encourage farmers for more production of cotton apart from announcing Minimum Support Prices (MSP), a Centrally sponsored scheme viz. Intensive Cotton Development Programme is being implemented in 11 major cotton growing states. The salient features of the scheme *inter alia* include transfer of technology to farmers, adoption of integrated pest management approach, popularising new varieties, enchancing area under irrigation through water saving devices, production of breeder seeds and distribution of certified seeds. Beside, Government has mooted to launch a Technology Mission on Cotton Development with objectives of increasing production and productivity of cotton, dissemination of technology to farmers, improvement in marketing infrastructure and modernisation of ginning and pressing factories.

Package for Industrial Sector

2668. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the banking industry propose to prepare a special package to bail out industrial sector from