

[English]

H.M.T.

1117. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hindustan Machine Tools Limited is manufacturing Kannada numbers digital watches for gents;

(b) if so, how many such watches proposed to be manufactured during 1996-97;

(c) whether Kannada numbers digital watches for ladies are not being manufactured;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to manufacture Kannada numbers ladies watches also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. But numbered gents quartz analog watches are being manufactured by HMT in Kannada, Gurumukhi and Malayalam languages so far. About 500 such watches are planned during 1996-97.

(c) to (e) HMT has not manufactured any quartz digital watches for ladies. However, quartz analog ladies watches with numerals in the languages mentioned above are planned by HMT during 1997-98.

Goswami Report on PSUs

1118. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to implement the recommendations of the Goswami Report which has recommended inter-alia that the Government's equity in Public Sector Undertakings reduced to 24 percent;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the main recommendations of the report;

(c) the time by which the Government are likely to take action on these recommendations; and

(d) to what extent it is likely to help in revamping the Public Sector Undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) There is no such proposal before the Government.

(b) The Goswami Report was commissioned by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), and therefore Government do not have any information on the details of the recommendations.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Benami Accounts in Banks

1119. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred question No. 432 dated 22nd November, 1996 regarding "benami accounts in banks" and state :

(a) whether the information asked for has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Some information has been received from the concerned banks and RBI. Additional information has been sought in this connection.

European Commission Aid

1120. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the European Commission (EC) has stopped extending aid to India for the last few months;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Balance of Trade with UK

1121. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether trade between India and United Kingdom had doubled during the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) further steps taken by the Government to increase the trade with UK?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) The details of Indo UK bilateral trade during the last few years is as follows :-

Year	Indo UK biateral Trade in Rs/crores
1993-94	9143.79
1994-95	10200.57
1995-96	13149.53
1996-97 (April-Nov., 1996)	9594.63

(Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta)