

- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Government is taking appropriate measures to create a favourable investor-friendly climate for foreign investment particularly if that foreign investment will also bring modern technology and management practices and create new markets for products manufactured in the country.

Foreign Direct Investment amounting to Rs.17026.77 crores has been approved during the period July, 1996 to October, 1996 which is 3.1/2 times more than Rs 4689.34 crores approved during the same period last year. Actual inflow during the same period in 1996 has increased to Rs.2402.05 crores as against Rs.2189.18 crores during the corresponding period last year.

From the above it is evident that the foreign investors confidence has increased substantially and they now see India as a destination for their investment. Hence the question of their going back does not arise.

[English]

Export of Poor Quality of Goods to Africa

3152. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item published in 'The Times of India' dated Nov.19, 1996 under the caption 'Indians send worst goods to Africa';

(b) whether a delegation of the Ugandan business community has visited India and criticised the inferior quality of Indian goods exported to Uganda by the Indian traders;

(c) if so, whether the Government have enquired into the allegations levelled in the meeting held in New Delhi;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any steps have been taken to improve the quality of goods to Africa; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason therefor.'

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (f). The Govt. have noted the news-item nomenclatured 'Indians send worst goods to Africa', which appeared in 'The Times of India' dated 19th Nov., 1996. While the confederation of Indian Industry, New Delhi have invited a business delegation from Uganda, no specific complaint from ugandan importers against Indian exporters for export of sub-standard quality goods has come to the notice.

However, the following steps have been initiated to ensure export of quality goods by Indian exporters to overseas countries :-

- Prescription of quality standards for commodities notified under The Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963;
- Recognition of certain privation inspection agencies to supplement the work of quality certification;
- organisation of seminars and workshops to educate the manufacturers and exporters on the methods of maintaining quality including packaging.
- organisation of exhibitions abroad to show quality goods from the Indian industry;
- provision of assistance by Total Quality Management Division already set up in C II to its members on establishing quality related system in the manufacturing process registered under ISO 9000 series.

V.R.S. for Employees of R.B.I.

3153. PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has recently worked out a voluntary retirement scheme for its officers/employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the RBI officers/employees thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Reserve bank of India has reported that the terms of sub-regulations, 1948, an employees who has attained the age of 50 years may voluntarily retire after giving to the competent authority three months' notice in writing. Further, without prejudice to the Sub-regulation (3) above, an employees governed by Reserve Bank of India Pension Regulations, 1990 may voluntarily retire at any time after he has completed 20 years of qualifying service after giving to the competent authority three months' notice in writing.

(c) The information is being collected and to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

Purchasing through HEC

3154. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the equipments purchased from H.E.C. for Coal Companies during the last three years and the prices thereof, separately;

(b) whether equipments which are manufactured in H.E.C. are purchased from the Private Sector parties instead of procuring them from H.E.C.; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the Coal companies should purchase the equipments manufactured by H.E.C.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) During the last three years, Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries placed orders on HEC for shovels and spares. The value of order placed on HEC are as under :-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Company	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
CIL	3831.85	4912.24	2554.45

(b) and (c). Equipment manufactured by HEC are also manufactured by other companies both in public and private sector. Orders are placed on the basis of open tenders.

New Coal Reserve

3155. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had conducted any survey for new areas of "Coal-Reserve" in West Bengal, particularly in Birbhum;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to find out more new coal reserves in West Bengal in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). As per information received from Geological Survey of India (GSI), the regional exploration for coal carried out by them has led to the identification of new coal deposits in Dewanganj-Harinsingha-Pachami-Dhokatha-Garia areas of Birbhum coalfield, Birbhum district and Domra area of Raniganj coalfield, Burdwan district of West Bengal. The coal reserves in these areas of Birbhum and Raniganj coalfields have been assessed as 3180.23 million tonnes and 917.77 million tonnes respectively, as on 1-1-1996.

(c) GSI has been conducting regional exploration for coal in Bistupur-Dandeswar sector, Burdwan District and trans-Damodar area and Banspetali-Majid Sector, Bankura district of Raniganj coalfield of West Bengal. GSI has a programme to carry out regional exploration/scout drilling in Churulia, Barul-Bagdiha sectors of Burdwan district, Raniganj coalfield and Balurgaht-Hilli area, south Dinajpur district, West Bengal.

Trade Fair

3156. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the pavillions of the States are

allowed to display and sell their items at the Trade Fair organised by India International Trade Fair in New Delhi;

(b) whether the Maharashtra pavillion is exempted from this facility;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to allow the state Governments for displaying and selling their items;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). Display and sales of items are already allowed in the State Govt.'s pavillions in the Indian International Trade Fair during the fair period. ITPO has not laid down any restriction. The sales effected in the pavillions are however subject to rules and regulations of the Govt. of N.C.T. Delhi.

(f) does not arise.

[Translation]

Export by BHEL

3157. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of exports made by the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. during each of the last three years and first half of the current financial year;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned and profits made by the BHEL during the above period; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the performance of the BHEL?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The export performance of BHEL during the last three years and the first half of the current year is as follows:-

(Rs. in crores)

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (Upto Sept.)*
Deemed	605	668	727	270
Physical	240	141	115	27
Total	845	809	842	297

*Unaudited (Provisional)