GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FINANCE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6949 ANSWERED ON:18.05.2012 BUYING OF BIGGER QUOTA IN IMF Bhagora Shri Tarachand

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is going ahead with shelling out \$ 11 billion to buy a bigger quota in the IMF in order to have greater say in the affairs of the multilateral lender whereas the country continues to battle slowing capital flows and a growing fiscal deficit and if so, the justification thereof;

(b) whether as per the experts this is an investment and India being a responsible nation with a growing clout, would have to share some global responsibility and if so, the reaction of the government thereto; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken in this direction in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) The International Monetary Fund (IMF) reviews Quota shares of member countries every five years. The last such review in 2010 resulted in India's share increasing from the present 2.44% to 2.75% when these Refoims become effective. This increase would require an additional payment of USD 11 billion. However, the cash outflow of this amount is only 25% (USD 2.75 billion approximately) and the balance is in the form of Rupee denominated Securities that can be enchased when required by IMF.

(b) The Quota payment is an international obligation of Government of India as a member of the IMF. With the growth in India's economy, its Quota share has also increased reflecting the size of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

(c) It has been proposed to earmark Rs. 56, 000 crore in the budget for Financial Year 2012-13 in case IMF calls for the payment when the Quota increase becomes effective