

(b) the details of amount spent on the training of doctors and nurses for operating this machine;

(c) the reasons for sending the patients for dialysis to other places inspite of having this machine in the hospital; and

(d) the details of the amount spent for providing dialysis facility somewhere else to the employees of BCCL during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) The Dialysis machine at Central Hospital in Jagjivan Nagar of BCCL was purchased in May, 1991 at a cost of Rs. 2.72 lakhs.

(b) Two doctors and one nurse were trained in operating the dialysis machine at a total cost of Rs. 34,951.50.

(c) Patients are referred to nephrology units outside for treatment of chronic renal failure as a whole and not for dialysis alone. In some of these cases the patients referred outside had to undergo dialysis also. This was required as the hospital does not have qualified nephrologists who can monitor dialysis.

(d) It has been reported by Coal India Limited that as per records maintained at Central Hospital, Dhanbad, the following cases were referred for treatment of chronic renal failure to higher medical centres having nephrology unit. Some of these patients referred for treatment of chronic renal failure as a whole had also undergone dialysis :

1996	13
1997	18
1998	16 (till 03.07.98).

Reimbursement records are not maintained itemwise i.e. there, are no separate records available for reimbursement in any particular item like dialysis. However, the approximate amount spent on haemo-dialysis of the 47 patients referred outside (on the basis of average of the rates of haemo-dialysis prevailing at Bokaro General Hospital, a public sector undertaking hospital and Apollo Hospital, Chennai, a reputed private hospital where patients are mostly referred) works out to Rs. 2.17 lakhs.

[Translation]

Trade Deficit

3573. SHRI MOTILAL VORA :
SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the trade deficit of the country has widened despite increase in the export during the last three years?

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the import-export made separately during each of the last three years: and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the imbalance?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) The trade deficit is measured by excess of imports over exports. The increase in trade deficit is primarily due to increased imports of fertilizers besides capital goods, raw material and intermediate goods. During the same period the export growth rate has been lower than the rate growth of imports.

(c) As per the data received from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), the value of Exports and Imports during the last three years in Rupee terms and in Dollar terms are :

Year	Export Values			
	US\$ Million	Rs. Crores	% Growth over Previous Year	
			(in Dollar Terms)	(in Rs. Terms)
1995-96	31797	106353	20.8	28.6
1996-97	33470	118817	5.3	11.7
1997-98(P)	33980	126286	1.5	6.3

Year	Import Values			
	US\$ Million	Rs. Crores	% Growth over Previous Year	
			(in Dollar Terms)	(in Rs. Terms)
1995-96	36678	122678	20.0	36.4
1996-97	39132	138920	6.7	13.2
1997-98(P)	40779	151554	4.2	9.1

P : Provisional

(d) The key to reducing trade deficit lies in accelerated export growth. To this end, export promotion measures are initiated on a continuing basis by the Government, to enhance the export growth of the country. These include policy liberalisation and simplification of procedures for providing an exporters friendly environment. Export Promotion measures are initiated on the basis of constant interaction with the trade industry and export promotion organisations, set up by the Government.