

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

ESSAR Group

4583. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Income Tax Department have revealed recently that ESSAR group have furnished less returns on profit of several crores of rupees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the fine imposed on the company in this regard, till date;

(d) whether any penal action have also been taken against the officials of the company; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Investment by Foreign Company in Infrastructure

4584. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any foreign company has made investment in infrastructure in the country during 1997-98, as on date; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) and (b) Sir, a total number of 1747 proposals envisaging foreign direct investment amounting to Rs. 46696.94 crores in different sectors including infrastructure, have been approved during the period 1.4.97 to 31.5.98. Total inflows amounting to Rs. 13766.60 crores have been received during this period. The details of such proposal viz. Name and country of Foreign collaborator, percentage of equity, items of manufacture/activity and location of the project are published on a monthly basis in STA Newsletter which is widely circulated, including the Parliament library.

Export Silk Waste

4585. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a high level meeting was held on shortage in silk waste consequent to the increasing export of silk waste from the country;

(b) if so, whether the Union Minister held a discussion with Chairman of the Silk Board in Bangalore has discussed various issues about silk reeler and spun silk manufacturers and sort out in mutual interest;

(c) if so, whether after discussion, the Government had no choice but to step in and impose restrictions on silk waste exports; and

(d) if so, the price for per Kg. fixed for silk waste ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) The previous Union Minister for Textiles had taken a meeting with the representatives of both silk reelers and spun silk mills owners on 15.11.97 in which Chairman, Central Silk Board (CSB) was also present. In this meeting it was decided that a Committee of the representative of the spun silk industry and the reelers will be formed which will decide a mutually acceptable band of silk waste prices that would rule for next one year. However, no acceptable arrangement could be negotiated for implementation.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. No restrictions have yet been proposed by the Government of India.

Financial Assistance by European Commission

4586. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether European Commission has decided to provide Rs. 42.43 crores for implementation of 29 projects under the European Union-Indian Economic Cross Cultural Programme; and

(b) if so, the details of projects which are likely to be undertaken under this assistance, location-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The projects which are to be implemented by different organisations and agencies located in India and in EU countries pertain to (i) University Dimension (ii) Enterprise Dimension, and (iii) Media Dimension. The projects cover social, economic, environmental and technological issues; development of small and medium enterprises, energy, transport, current affairs etc.