

The foreign investors are responding positively to these policy initiatives. During January, 1998 to December, 1998, FDI of Rs. 30813.57 crore was approved of which the share of Maharashtra was Rs. 3063.05 crore. The FDI inflow excluding Global Depositary Receipt (GDRs) in 1998 was Rs. 13265 crore against Rs. 12989 crore in 1997.

(c) and (d) Some of major projects with FDI being implemented in the State of Maharashtra are Dabhol Power Project, Mercedes Benz, Electrolux Voltas, Ispat energy, Hughes Ispat Ltd., Nippon Denro Ispat Limited, Central India Power Company Limited, Essar Shipping Limited, Hutchison Max Telecom, Central India Coal Company Limited, Indo Rama Synthetics (India) Limited, Rameshwar Vaibhav Development Pvt. Ltd., etc.

As on date one mega project for setting up an infrastructure Mixed Industrial Park in Maharashtra with an estimated project cost of Rs. 11701.47 crore is under consideration of the Government.

Deletion of Limestone and Bauxite

1497. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has represented to delete Limestone and Bauxite from the list of Scheduled minerals shown in Schedule I of Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposal for deletion of Limestone and Bauxite from Schedule-I of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, has been considered by the Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of the then Secretary (Mines) with the Secretaries of some of the State Governments including the Government of Gujarat, Secretary General, Federation of Indian Mineral Industries, Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines etc. as members. The terms of reference of the Committee *inter-alia*, included review of the existing laws and procedures governing regulation and development of minerals and to recommend steps to make them compatible with the policy changes and to suggest steps to reduce delays in grant/renewal of Prospecting

Licences/Mining Leases. The Committee was also to consider and suggest further delegation of powers to the State Governments regarding grant/renewal of Prospecting Licences/Mining Leases and measures to be taken to prevent illegal mining. The Committee has since submitted its report on which necessary action for amendment in the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 and Rules made thereunder has already been initiated.

Nomination Facilities

1498. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the corporations under his Ministry having nomination facilities especially meant for non-officials; and

(b) the details of procedure and guidelines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) The following Corporations are functioning under this Ministry :—

- (i) Export Credit and Guarantee Corporation (ECGC)
- (ii) India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO)
- (iii) National Centre for Trade Information (NCTI)
- (iv) Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC)
- (v) The State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (STC)
- (vi) The Project and Equipment Corporation of India Ltd. (PEC)
- (vii) The Spices Trading Corporation of India Ltd., Bangalore (STCL)

Presently ECGC, ITPO, NCTI have non-official representation on the Boards of Directors.

There is no non-official representation on the Boards of MMTC, STC, PEC and STCL.

The directors are appointed/nominated by the President. The procedure entails the approval of Government in accordance with provisions contained in the respective Articles of Association.