

Foreign Investment in India

1152. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL
KOCHAK:

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHE-
KHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government are considering to provide many facilities for foreign investment in India;

(b) if so, the main details and concession to be provided for foreign investment in India during the current year; and

(c) to what extent this decision will improve the foreign investment in India?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). No, Sir, There is no policy under consideration seeking to provide separate or special concessions for foreign investors. The Government's approach is that all fiscal and financial concessions should apply to all new investments uniformly, Indian or foreign.

Dilution of Foreign Enquiry by Drug Companies

1153. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) which of the Multi-national drug companies have refused to dilute their foreign equity over and above 40 per cent limit laid down by Government and the reasons therefor and the steps Government have taken to enforce these provisions in their case; and

(b) how Government propose to tackle these Multi-nationals which are defying the implementation of Government's declared policy of dilution of foreign equity over 40 per cent?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Directives have been issued to multi-national drug companies

with more than 40 per cent non-resident shareholding to bring down non-resident shareholding to 40 per cent or 51 per cent as the case may be depending on the nature of the activities of the company. These directives are statutory in character and any company wishing to continue its activities in the country should comply with them. So far, there has been no case of any foreign drug company refusing to comply with the FERA directives. However, some companies have submitted representations seeking to retain higher level of non-resident equity on various grounds. The question of taking action can be considered only after these representations have been disposed of and any company has still not implemented the dilution of non-resident shareholding required by the final directive.

12 hrs.

SHRI HARIKESH BHADUR (Gorakhpur): 40 Indian prisoners-of-war have been missing since 1971 Indo-Pak War and they have not yet been traced by the authorities of the Government.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): I wish to draw your attention to the fact that I had given a notice of a privilege motion against Shri P. Shiv Shankar, former Law Minister.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I have received the clarification. Actually, his entire interpretation conflicts with that of the Election Commission and the Home Minister's minutes have also been produced. You should carefully go into that.

प्रध्मल महोदय : इस पर कोई पेट्रीशन वगैरह दीजिये ।

श्री राम बिलास पासवान (हाजीपुर) : प्रध्मल जी, यह बहुत ही गंभीर मामला है ।

प्रध्मल महोदय : कौन सा ।