

of global investors. The inflow of FDI to approval ratio has shown consistent improvement, increasing from 17% in 1992 to 52% in 2000 and 72% in 2001 upto September, 2001. Government has set up the Foreign Investment Implementation Authority to act as a single-point interface between the foreign investors and various approval authorities, and to facilitate speedy project implementation.

Review of Indo-Nepal Trade Treaty

2300. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indo-Nepal Trade Treaty is due for review in December, 2001;

(b) if so, whether Nepal has insisted that the Treaty be extended in its present form;

(c) whether India is considering prescription of minimum value addition to Nepalese imports and also for unilateral right for checks in case of sudden surge in imports; and

(d) what other measures/safeguards Government are likely to insist on to protect the domestic industry, while reviewing the Treaty ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI) : (a) to (d) Discussions are in progress between the concerned authorities of India and Nepal to resolve certain issues that have emerged during the implementation of the India-Nepal Treaty of Trade, as modified in December, 1996, prior to the extension of its validity. A limited extension of the Treaty for a period of three months from December 5, 2001 has been agreed to enable the negotiations to the Treaty to be concluded.

Foreign investment in Agrani Satellite Services

2301. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved the proposal of Agrani Satellite Services Limited to induct 74 per cent foreign equity into the company;

(b) if so, the details thereof;