

the role of MNCs has increased considerably and a large number of developing countries have made conscious efforts to increase inflow of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to supplement their domestic investible resources. W.T.O. deals only with multilateral trade.

(c) The small companies generally act as ancillaries to the large companies or cater to a niche market and MNCs generally do not enter into the labour intensive activities of small companies. In India, various financial benefits such as excise duty waiver/concessions and priority in bank lending are also made available to small companies to promote their growth and a special package of benefits is also being designed for the SSI sector.

Leasing of Tribal Areas to Private parties for Mining

*307. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether tribals of Andhra Pradesh are opposing the move of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to lease tribal areas to private parties for mining against Supreme Court's orders on the subject;

(b) the action proposed to ensure that amendment to Land Transfer Regulation Act is not agreed to for such purpose; and

(c) the instructions to be issued to all State Governments to ensure that tribal life-style is not endangered by decisions of the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) The Ministry has received a few representations on the subject. The Ministry has also circulated the relevant extracts of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgement to the State Governments on the issue and has requested them to abide by the judgement in letter and spirit.