

articles (weight 14.34%) which remained above 15 per cent during March end to week ending October 9, 2010, has declined to 13.8 per cent on October 16, 2010 and further 12.3 per cent for the week ended on October 30, 2010.

(b) Government monitors the price situation regularly as price stability remains high on its agenda. Measures taken to contain prices of essential commodities include selective ban on exports and futures trading in food grains, zero import duty on select food items, permitting import of pulses and sugar by public sector undertakings, distribution of imported pulses and edible oils through PDS and release of higher quota of non-levy sugar. RBI has also taken suitable measures to moderate demand levels consistent with capacity of the economy to maintain its growth without provoking price rise. Accordingly, the Repo rate and Reverse Repo rate increased to 6 per cent and 5 per cent respectively on September 16, 2010 from a level of 5.75 per cent and 4.50 per cent respectively. Further, RBI raised the Repo rate and Reverse Repo rate to 6.25 per cent and 5.25 per cent respectively in its Second Quarter Policy Review on November 2, 2010.

Investment by FFIs in Indian share market

†829. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount of capital investment of Foreign Financial Institutions (FFIs) in Indian share market has reached upto 6 billion dollars during a month in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a possibility of negative effect on Indian economy due to this amount of capital investment made; and

(d) if so, the possibilities thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA):

(a) It is presumed that capital investment by Foreign Financial Institutions refers to investment by Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) registered with SEBI. As per information provided by SEBI, the net investment by FIIs/sub-accounts in equity (Primary and secondary market) in the month of October 2010 exceeded US \$ 6 billion.

(b) Details of net investments (Primary and secondary market) of FIIs/sub-accounts in equity is as follows:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Month	Net Investment US(\$) million
October 2010	6,421

Source: SEBI

(c) and (d) The Government and SEBI have put in place mechanisms to monitor and assess FII inflows. The possible effects of investments made by FIIs on Indian economy are assessed on a continuous basis. Suitable remedial steps are taken when it is concluded that the inflows can have negative impact on the Indian economy.

Customs duty on power generation equipments

830. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private power sectors have opposed Government's move to levy customs duty on foreign power generation equipments to give boost to domestic production;

(b) whether the private power sectors have also informed Government that the proposed customs duty will have serious impact on the capacity addition programme planned by the private sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and decision taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The proposal on customs duty structure on power generation equipments is under consideration.

Raising of retirement age of Central Government employees

831. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Personnel and Training has submitted a proposal to the Ministry recommending to raise retirement age from 60 to 62 of Central Government employees; and

(b) if so, by when Government will come out with its decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Investment in equity market by LIC

832. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: