

small and medium enterprises. Further, to encourage flow of venture capital in the country legal and fiscal framework has been created through amendment of Companies Act (Sweat equity & buy back of shares) and Income Tax Laws. Corporate and Income Tax exemptions are being allowed on dividends and long-term capital gains for venture capital investments. Special stock option schemes for Indian software companies linked with American Depository Receipt/Global Depository Receipt are being allowed.

Software Technology Parks cater for incubation centres which will facilitate and enable up and coming software professionals and units to develop products for export.

To encourage R&D in the area of Information Technology, Government has allowed a weighted deduction of 125% on the sums paid to any university, college or an institution or a Scientific Research Association for the purposes of scientific, social or statistical research.

Computer Software Export Promotion Council

3348. SHRI B. J. PANDA:

SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had a proposal to set up Computer Software Export Promotion Council in all the major cities of the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) the performance of these Export Promotion Councils in terms of quantity and value of export of computer software peripheral as well other electronics items during the last three years; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The Government has set up Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC), to promote export in the area of Electronics and Information Technology. It has its headquarter at New Delhi with a branch office at Bangalore. Another branch is being set up at Chennai. There is no plan at present to establish its branch offices at any of the other major cities in the country.

(c) and (d) A statement in this regard is enclosed (*see below*).

Statement*Sectorwise Exports*

1997-98 to 1999-2000

		Rs. in Crore		
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
A.	Electronic Hardware			
1	Consumer Electronics (% Growth)	370 (-43.94)	425 (14.86)	450 (5.88)
2	Telecom Equipment (% Growth)	300 (-7.41)	250 (-16.67)	180 (-28.00)
3	Instruments/Office Eqpt. Medical Eqpt. (% Growth)	240 (36.36)	175 (-27.08)	170 (-2.86)
4	Electronic Component (% Growth)	800 (25.59)	900 (12.50)	1200 (33.33)
5	Computer Hardware & Peripherals (% Growth)	1100 (-17.48)	300 (-72.73)	600 (100.00)
Sub Total (A)		2810	2050	2600
(% Growth)		(-10.22)	(-27.05)	(26.83)
B.	Compter Software & Services (% Growth)	6800 (65.33)	12500 (83.82)	17300 (38.40)
C.	Telecom Services & Project Export (% Growth)	2600 (50.55)	2800 (7.69)	3400 (21.43)
D.	Video Film Software (% Growth)	230 (84.78)	425 (70.59)	725
Total (A + B + C)		12440	17775	24025
(% Growth)		(38.68)	(42.89)	(35.16)
Average Exchange Rate 1US\$1		37.50	41.50	43.00

Target Set for Software Export

3349. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is targeting an export of 60 billion dollars worth of software in the next few years consolidating its position as the leading global player in software export;