

released to all the 60 districts during 2010-11 and 2011-12, the expenditure has already reached at Rs. 1413.05 crore (as on 09.12.2011) which works out to about 56.52%. The 60 districts put together have taken up 61111 works/projects, out of which 26946 works/projects have already been completed. The nature of major works/projects taken up by the districts under the IAP include construction of School Buildings/School Furniture, Anganwadi Centres, Drinking Water Facilities, Rural Roads, Panchayats Bhawan/Community Halls, Godowns/PDS shops, livelihood activities, skill development/trainings, Minor Irrigation Works, Electric Lighting, Health Centres/Facilities, Ashram Schools, construction of Toilets, construction of multi-purpose chabutra, construction of passenger waiting hall, special coaching classes for students, construction of ANM Centres, development of play grounds etc. The balance funds for the year 2011-12 will be released on the basis of progress of expenditure by the districts concerned. The success of the IAP has been widely recognized by the local communities.

#### **Steps to attract more FDIs**

\*310. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India slipped from being the 8th largest recipient of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in 2009 to the 14th largest in 2010;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what are the steps being taken by Government to make India a more attractive destination for FDI; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that many countries are offering more sops for FDI than what India offers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) According to the UNCTAD's World Investment Report, 2011, India's global ranking, in terms of FDI inflows, was fourteenth in 2010 and eighth in 2009.

(b) Under the liberalized economic environment, investment decisions of investors are based on the macro-economic policy framework, economic environment in the host and investing countries, investment policies of transnational corporations and other commercial considerations.

(c) The Government has put in place an investor-friendly policy on FDI, under which FDI, upto 100%, is permitted on the automatic route, in most sectors/activities. Significant changes have been made in the FDI policy regime in the recent times, to ensure that India remains increasingly attractive and investor-friendly. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy is reviewed on an ongoing basis, with a view to making it more investor friendly.

Government plays an active role in investment promotion, through dissemination of information on the investment climate and opportunities in India. Joint commissions and joint working groups have been established for promoting investment, technical and scientific cooperation with partner countries. The Government has also set up CEOs' Forums/Business Leaders' Forum with some countries for active business-to-business cooperation and for developing a road map for partnership and investment promotion. It also coordinates with apex industry associations, such as FICCI, CII and ASSOCHAM, in their activities relating to investment promotion both through bilateral and multilateral initiatives.

The Government also takes up investment and economic cooperation related issues in Bilateral/Regional Economic Cooperation Agreements. Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements are entered into, with the aim of ensuring greater investor confidence, thereby attracting increased inflows of FDI. 'Invest India', a joint-venture company between the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion and FICCI has been set up as a not-for-profit, single window facilitator, for prospective overseas investors.

The Government of India, in partnership with various State Governments and Business Associations, is also making concerted efforts to make regulations conducive for business. An important initiative in this regard is the e-Biz Project, to provide online registration and filing services, to investors and business houses.

(d) Government has not conducted study in this regard.

#### **Simplification of official language, Hindi**

†\*311. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has felt the need for simplification of official language, Hindi;
- (b) if so, the measures taken by Government;
- (c) whether Hindi used in the official work is colloquial Hindi language used by common people;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the measures taken by Government to make official language more user-friendly and simple?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Instructions have been issued from time to time by the Department of Official

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.