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THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) No.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Income Tax Law on Foreign Capital Investmeet

†2371. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that foreigners have registered strong protest on the proposal to make amendment in income tax law on foreign capital investment in the budget by Government recently;
- if so, whether Government representatives of certain countries of the world have also participated in this protest; and
 - if so, the details thereof and the reasons stated for making this protest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) to (c) Some business entities and associations from countries including the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, France, Mauritius and Japan have raised issues regarding the amendment proposals to the Income Tax Act included in the Finance Bill 2012. The Governments of the UK and Mauritius have also raised concerns. The major issues raised by the foreign entities include the retrospective application of the amendments and concerns about the proposal to introduce General Anti-Avoidance Rules.

Indians Working in Gulf countries

2372. SHRI TARIQ ANSWAR: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that a large number of Indians are working in the Gulf (a) countries;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- whether it is also a fact that these persons are cheated, suppressed or exploited by their employees;
 - if so, the number of cases recorded during the last three years; and (d)
 - (e) the action taken by Government in this regard?

[†] Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.