

Foreign investment in oil and natural gas projects

†2494. SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to sanction the foreign investment in oil and natural gas projects within 30 days;

(b) if so, the names of countries which have shown their interest to invest in this sector after this announcement made by Government and the amount likely to be invested;

(c) whether Government is considering to fix a time-frame for sanctioning the investment in other sectors also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) As per extant Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy, FDI, up to 100% is permitted, under the automatic route, for exploration activities of oil and natural gas fields, infrastructure related to marketing of petroleum products and natural gas, marketing of natural gas and petroleum products, petroleum product pipelines, natural gas/pipelines, LNG regasification infrastructure, market study and formulation and petroleum refining in the private sector, subject to the existing sectoral policy and regulatory framework in the oil marketing sector and the policy of the Government on private participation in exploration of oil and the discovered fields of national oil companies. Extant FDI policy, therefore, does not envisage Government approval for bringing FDI into companies carrying on these activities.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Anti-dumping duty on solar PV modules

2495. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the investigation against dumping of Photo-Voltaic modules in the Indian market by foreign suppliers;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether imposition of anti-dumping duties, based on the outcome of this investigation, would have a significant impact on cost of installation of solar PV projects both large scale and off grid projects; if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether this measure would also have impact on the projects under the National Solar Mission and its overall progress: if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) has initiated an anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of Solar Cells whether or not assembled partially or fully in Modules or Panels or on glass or some other suitable substrates, originating in or exported from Malaysia, China PR, Chinese Taipei and United States of America, *vide* Notification No. 14/5/2012-DGAD dated 23rd November, 2012.

(b) and (c) Does not arise as the anti-dumping investigation is at its initial stage and findings are yet to come.

Incentives to exporters

2496. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to offer certain new incentives to the exporters to speed up exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) which are the items for export for which the above incentives would be extended;

(d) whether it is proposed to enlarge this list for grant of such incentives; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) The Government continuously monitors the export performance of different sectors and takes need based measures from time to time, keeping in view the financial and overall economic