

100 per cent FDI in medical devices

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

- (a) whether it is proposed to go in for 100 per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in medical devices;
- (b) if so, the details with reasons therefor;
- (c) how far it will help in easy and early procurement of such items;
- (d) which are other items that are on the anvil of 100 per cent FDI; and
- (e) what are the detailed reasons for going in for such an action plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) To give impetus to the medical devices sector and for easing the norms the Government *vide* Press Note 2 (2015 series) dated 21.01.2015 allowed 100% FDI under the automatic route for brownfield projects of medical devices industry.

(c) The measure undertaken would help in easing the process of foreign investment in this industry which, in turn, could result in increased manufacturing of medical devices in India.

(d) and (e) Government has put in place an investor-friendly policy on FDI, under which FDI, up to 100%, is permitted, under the automatic route, in most sectors/activities. FDI policy is reviewed on an ongoing basis and significant changes are made in the FDI policy regime from time to time, to ensure that India remains increasingly attractive and Investor-friendly.

Fall in exports

340. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian exports have gone down in the last one year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the cumulative exports during the first half of year 2014-15 and 2015-16, respectively; and
- (c) the steps proposed to boost exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) Data on Indian