

Year	No of FDI Proposal Considered
2014	372
2015	473
2016	217
2017	111
(as on 30.11.2017)	

(b) and (c) Filing of FDI proposals and disposal thereof is a continuous process. Decisions on the all FDI proposal are taken uniformly after completion of all the necessary documents. Consequent upon abolition of erstwhile Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) on 24th May, 2017, 71 proposals which were under consideration of the Government at that time, were distributed among the concerned identified administrative Ministries/Departments for their disposal. No FDI proposal has been put on fast-track for clearance. As on 15th November, 2017, 54 FDI Proposals, which also includes proposals received after abolition of FIPB, are under consideration at various stages in the concerned Administrative Ministries/Departments.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. A Joint Review Meeting was held on 24th August, 2017 to review FDI proposals. Concerned administrative Departments were directed to expedite disposal of FDI proposals as per the policy provisions.

(f) Data on state-wise FDI proposals is not centrally maintained.

#### **Infirmities in manufacturing sector in the country**

972. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent report of 'Ease of doing Business' by NITI Aayog and the IDFC Institute has thrown up any serious infirmities in the manufacturing sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details of policy frame work being worked out there on and what corrective measures are being initiated; and

(c) whether the beleaguered young enterprises in the manufacturing sector effectively mop up the growing labour force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) NITI Aayog, on 28th August, 2017, launched the "Ease of Doing Business Report: An Enterprise Survey of Indian States" based on the Enterprise Survey of 3,500 manufacturing firms across Indian

States and Union Territories. The survey has been conducted, along with the IDFC Institute, to assess the business regulations and enabling environment across India from firms' perspective. The survey is meant to be qualitative. Its objective is to provide information for states on their business environment. The report itself states that it is meant to be a research document and its contents do not represent the views of Government of India or NITI Aayog.

The report was primarily to assess the business regulations and enabling environment in specific areas, across India from the viewpoint of firms; and not for locating infirmities in the manufacturing sector. The survey, inter alia, indicates the existence of feedback loops between the doing business climate and economic activity. It is important to note that the methodology of the present Enterprise Survey differs from that of the World Bank's Doing Business Survey in the following ways:

- The World Bank interviews industry leaders while this survey interviews firms along with some experts in large states.
- While the World Bank survey has a standardized survey across 190 countries, this survey is a non-standardized survey only for India.
- While the World Bank Survey covers 10 parameters handled by the states and the central government, this survey primarily deals with issues handled by the State Governments

The survey indicates that the government's efforts to improve business environment are showing results on the ground. The experiences of start-ups, or enterprises started during or after 2014, suggest a significant improvement in doing business over time. Newer and younger firms take less time in obtaining approvals, highlighting a favorable business environment. Young firms report that most regulatory processes do not constitute a major obstacle to their doing business. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has identified 372 points for improving regulatory environment in States covering the entire life cycle of a business.

#### **Steps to overcome trade deficit**

973. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the exports have drastically come down due to which the foreign trade deficit has reached an alarming level during the last six months of the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, sector-wise and the reasons therefor;