(c) whether Government has accepted the restrictions imposed by WTO on food procurement at administered prices for food security programme by Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The relevant rules of the World Trade Organization (WTO), adopted at the end of the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations in 1994, are applicable to the purchase of food under public stockholding programmes for food security purposes. As per the rules, if the food for these programmes is purchased at "administered" prices, and not at market prices, then this is considered as support to farmers. The WTO rules impose certain limits on such support. In order to ensure that these limits do not constrain public stockholding programmes for food security purposes in developing countries, a coalition of developing countries, including India, sought to amend the WTO rules. As per decisions taken at Ministerial Conferences of the WTO held in Bali (December, 2013), Nairobi (December, 2015) and in the WTO General Council in November, 2014, an interim mechanism is in place. This provides that WTO members would exercise due restraint (popularly termed as a 'Peace Clause') in raising disputes under the relevant provisions of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture in respect of public stockholding programmes for food security purposes even if countries exceed their permissible limits on the subsidies involved in food purchases under such programmes. It was also decided that a permanent solution would be negotiated. While a permanent solution could not be achieved at the recently concluded 11th Ministerial Conference of the WTO held in Buenos Aires, Argentina in December, 2017 due to a lack of consensus, India's public stockholding programmes continue to be protected due to the interim mechanism, which is available in perpetuity.

Decline in farm exports

3688. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for decline in farm exports during last year;

(b) what export restrictions are put on farm exports; and

(c) whether it is a fact that these export restrictions have disadvantaged farmers in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) India's exports of farm products (including plantation and marine products) during 2016-17 amounted to USD 33.37

billion as compared to USD 32.09 billion in 2015-16. As such, there was no decline in the overall export of farm products during 2016-17.

(b) and (c) The only major farm product, export of which is prohibited, is edible oils. However, several exemptions have been allowed w.r.t. major oilseeds grown in India and bulk export of Groundnut oil, Sesame oil, Soyabean oil, Maize (Corn) oil, Rice Bran oil, Coconut oil, Organic edible oils and minor forest produce oils is permitted. Exports of all edible oils are also allowed in consumer packs of up to 5 kgs. subject to Minimum Export Price of USD 900/MT. Export of all other farm products is permitted subject to fulfilment of conditions specified for individual products. Occasionally minimum export price or export duty is imposed on items like onion, sugar etc. to overcome a domestic shortfall in production, purely as a temporary measure. Exports of farm products are also subject to the phytosanitary and quality requirements of the importing countries. Various export promotion agencies under the Department of Commerce *viz.* Export Inspection Council, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) and various Commodity Boards take necessary steps to support exporters/farmers in meeting the phytosanitary and quality requirements of the importing countries.

FDI investment

3689. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of FDI investment in the country during last three years, State-wise;

(b) what was the stimulated expectation;

(c) whether the goal has been reached, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether every year investors' meet is needed at State and National level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) State-wise details of the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow is not Centrally maintained. However, region-wise (One RBI regional office may have one or more States) details of FDI equity inflow received during the last three financial years are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) No goals are fixed for FDI inflows, nor is an expectation of future inflows possible, as FDI is largely a matter of private business decisions. FDI inflows depend on a host of factors such as availability of natural resource, market size,