

PRIORITY-II

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.462
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2018

INVESTMENT CENTRES

†*462 SHRI SADASHIV LOKHANDE:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up overseas investment centres in different countries to attract investment from overseas Indians;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the locations identified for setting up these centres;
- (c) the names of countries where such centres have already been set up; and
- (d) the details of the functions of these centres and the names of the countries where these centres are likely to be set up in future?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 462 REGARDING “INVESTMENT CENTRES” FOR ANSWER ON 28.03.2018

(a) to (d) Following the merger of the erstwhile Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs with the Ministry of External Affairs in February 2016, the Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) was closed down and the work related to promotion of investment in India by Overseas Indians was transferred to Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP). DIPP has set up ‘Invest India’, a joint venture company between the Department and FICCI, as a not-for-profit, single window facilitator, for prospective overseas investors and to act as a structured mechanism to attract investment. Its experts, specializing across different countries, Indian states and sectors, handhold investors through their investment lifecycle and they operate only from India.

Indian Missions/Posts abroad are promoting and facilitating economic engagement of overseas Indians with India by way of organizing Seminars, Trade fairs, Exhibitions, Road Shows, interactive Meets etc. and are working as Investment Centres.

In the light of the importance of foreign direct investments for economic growth and development, the Government has put in place an investor-friendly policy, wherein except for a small negative list, most sectors are open for 100% FDI under the Automatic route. The policy allows special dispensation for NRI investments & investment made by NRIs on non-repatriation basis under Schedule 4 of Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA) Regulation is deemed to be domestic investment at par with the investment made by residents. Further, the policy on FDI is reviewed on an ongoing basis, to ensure that India remains attractive & investor friendly destination.

These measures are expected to increase FDI, which complements and supplements domestic investment. Domestic companies are benefited through FDI, by way of enhanced access to supplementary capital and state-of-art-technologies; exposure to global managerial practices and opportunities of integration into global markets resulting into increased production, export and employment generation of the country.
