

[15 May, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

Rs. 10 crore per Growth Centre (Rs. 15 crore for the North East Region). State Government is responsible to source the balance funds and implement and complete the project. Out of 68 Growth Centres sanctioned by the Central Government so far; 26 Growth Centres have become functional where plot allotment to industries has commenced. The remaining Growth Centres are at various stage of implementation.

(b) and (c) Four Growth Centres sanctioned in Orissa are at various stages of implementation. The Central assistance released in each case is as under:

(Rs. in Lakhs)		
Sl. No.	Name of Growth Centre	Central assistance released
1.	Chhatrapur (District Ganjam)	50
2.	Kalinganagar-Duburi (Distt. Cuttak)	150
3.	Jharsuguda (District Jharsuguda)	50
4.	Kesinga (District Kalahandi)	50

Requirement of Export Licence for Chinese Coke Exporters

5221. SHRI BIRABHADRA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chinese Government have recently directed that all coke exports to India will have to be routed through specified Chinese exporters and coke manufacturer as well as introducing the requirement of an export licence specifically for shipment to India;

(b) whether these Chinese exporters and manufactures have been identified as erring companies by the Indian Customs Excise Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal (CEGAT);

(c) whether any reconciliation efforts or other appropriate measures are being taken by Government so that shortage of this important raw material does not occur, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, Following complaints from Indian manufacture of metallurgical coke of dumping the commodity in the Indian market by the

Chinese exporters, the Govt, of India, after due investigations, had imposed anti-dumping duty on import of met coke from China. In response the Chinese authorities designated 7 Chinese companies to export coke to India, a measure taken by the Chinese authorities to canalise the export of the item to India aimed to overcome the fierce competition amongst Chinese producers and exporters which had led the dumping in India, the measure taken by the Chinese Govt. also ensures sufficient competition amongst them with a view to keep the price of met coke not higher than the international price.

(c) and (d) Various measures have been taken to augment the production of coking coal/superior grades of coal by re-organising existing mines and development of new mines. Modification of existing washeries as well as construction of new washeries to increase the existing washery capacity is also being done. Efforts are also being made for enhancing the underground production. Steps are being taken to mechanically beneficiate non-coking coal by washing.

Import of Commercial Crop Produce

5222. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that import of commercial crop produce like cotton, rubber, coffee, coconut under OGL have adversely affected the farming community in the country;

(b) if so, the details of import of sugar, wheat, cotton, rubber, coconut and coffee allowed during 1999-2000 under OGL and extent of adverse effect on Indian farming;

(c) the details of representation received from the organizations representing farming community; and

(d) the details of action taken/proposed to protect the interest of domestic farmers and the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) Import of cotton and sugar was made free prior to 31.03.96. Import of coffee and coconut, except desiccated coconut (Exim Code 080111 00), is presently restricted. Import of rubber is allowed against surrender of Special Import Licence (SIL). Import of these items has been free from SAARC countries since 01.08.98.