

(c) As regards large volume exports commitment, the Corporation shall be underwriting risks within its own financial capacity and in accordance with its risk perception.

Setting up of Industries in Kerala

328. SHRI CO. POULOSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of industries/factories established in the State of Kerala as compared to the other States of the country during the last five years and till date in view of the economic and industrial development of the State;

(b) whether Government have formulated any new policy to set up industries in Kerala on priority basis;

(c) if so, what are the details of various proposals received from the private sector; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) During the period from 1995 to 1999, Kerala accounted for a little over 2% of the industrial investment intentions implemented in the country.

(b) to (d) With the announcement of Industrial Policy Statement 1991 the Central Government has embarked upon a policy of deregulation and liberalisation which is applicable to all States and Union Territories including Kerala. In such an environment it is the perception of the entrepreneur regarding availability of supportive infrastructure, trained manpower and overall business environment that determines of the entrepreneurs for a particular State or Union Territory.

Growth Centres Functioning in Assam

329. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of growth centres functioning at present in the State of Assam;

(b) the number of growth centres proposed to be set up in the State during the Ninth Plan;

(c) the amount allocated by Government for the same; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) As per the approved criteria under the Scheme, three growth centres are to be set up in Assam. Of these, the centres at Chariduar (district Sonitpur) and at Matia (district Goalpara) have been approved by the Central Government. The Project Appraise report submitted by the State Government on the third centre proposed at Chaygaon (district Kamrup) is under consideration of the Central agencies.

(c) and (d) The entire cost of growth centres set up in the North-Eastern States will be borne by the Central Government, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 15 crore per centre. A total amount of Rs. 350 lakh has been released to Assam, of which Rs. 200 lakh is for the centre at Chariduar and Rs. 150 lakh for the centre at Matia.

Involvement of State Governments in Boosting Exports

330. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to involve State Governments in boosting exports is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how tea export earnings would be divided/shared between the Centre and State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The Government of India continuously strives to have participation of States in export promotion by way of provision of adequate and quality infrastructure, input support, relief from imports, removal of procedural and other constraints. States are also consulted on matters which are specific to them. In the Exim policy, there is a provision to recognise one agency of the State Government as Export House in relaxation of the criterion.

An Export Promotion Industrial Parks Scheme (EPIP) is being implemented in the country since 1993-94 under which 20 EIPs have been set up in different States all over the country. A total sum of Rs. 152.26 crores has been released so far for the approved EIPs.

A Critical Infrastructure Balance Scheme is also being implemented by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry under which assistance is provided to States and their agencies for strengthening the infrastructure and removal of bottlenecks to exports. An amount of Rs. 136.05 crores has been sanctioned