

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) (a) and (b) No, Sir. State Governments have taken a number of actions to implement various provisions of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995. The implementation of the Act requires a multisectoral collaborative approach of all concerned Ministries of the Central Government, the State/UT Governments and other appropriate authorities. The implementation of the Act is a continuous process and is subject to the limits of economic capacity of the central/state governments and other appropriate authorities.

(c) and (d) The Government of India, have taken up the matter repeatedly, requesting the State Governments to take actions, to implement various provisions of the Act. Recently, Hon'ble Prime Minister has also written to the Chief Ministers of States requesting them to implement the Act in letter and spirit. The Chief Ministers of most of the states, have replied that effective steps are being taken for implementation of the act.

निर्यात और आयात का मूल्य

*98. श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया:
श्री कपिल सिब्बल:

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गत वर्षों से विदेशी व्यापार की मद में निर्यात के मुकाबले आयात कहीं अधिक होता है;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो वर्ष 1995-96, 1996-97 और 1997-98 के दौरान ऐसी कौन-कौन सी वस्तुएँ थीं जिनके कल-पुर्जों का आयात करके उन्हें पूर्ण रूप देकर उनका निर्यात किया गया;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने उक्त अवधि के दौरान उपरोक्त आयात-निर्यात मूल्यों का कोई आकलन किया है; और

(घ) यदि हाँ, तो प्रतिवर्ष आयातित कल पुर्जों का मूल्य कितना था और अन्तिम रूप देने के पश्चात् उनका निर्यात मूल्य कितना था?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री रामकृष्ण हेगड़े): (क) पूर्ववर्ती पांच वर्षों के लिए निर्यात, आयात और व्यापार संतुलन से संबंधित आंकड़े निम्नानुसार हैं:—

वर्ष	निर्यात (करोड़ रु० में)	आयात (करोड़ रु० में)	व्यापार संतुलन
1993-94	69751	73101	-3350
1994-95	82674	89971	-7297
1995-96	106353	122768	-16325
1996-97	118817	138920	-20103
1997-98*	126286	151554	-25268
(अ)			

* (अ) अग्रिम

(ख) से (घ) निर्यात के प्रयोजन से संबंधित आयात के लिए अलग से कोई विशिष्ट आंकड़े नहीं रखे जाते हैं। फलस्वरूप, वर्ष 1995-96, 1996-97 और 1997-98 के लिए निर्यात प्रयोजनों के संबंध में किए गए संघटकों के आयात के बारे में निश्चित जानकारी देना संभव नहीं है। इसी प्रकार, आयातित संघटकों के उपयोग के संबंध में निर्यात उत्पादों के भी अलग से आंकड़े नहीं रखे जाते हैं।

States land ceiling and regulation Acts

*99. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
Will the MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the States Land Ceiling and Regulation Acts are in consonance with the policy of Government;

(b) if so, the reasons why the State Governments are revising the market rates of lands at regular intervals in contrast to Government's decision to re-lease land for housing at cheaper rates; and

(c) how is this anomaly proposed to be removed?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) Except Tamil Nadu, no State has independent legislation on urban land ceiling. Both the Central Act and the Tamil Nadu Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act, 1978 had similar objectives. The Central Act now stands repealed.

(b) and (c) No market rates of land are fixed under Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act, 1976, which now stands repealed.

Amendments to Patents Law

*100. SHRI AKHILESH DAS:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what was the precise commitment to World Trade Organisation with regard to amendments to the Patents Law; and

(b) what specific steps are contemplated to prevent encroachments in areas, patently like Neem, Turmeric, Basmati Rice etc?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) As per the provisions of the Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) Agreement, which is a part of Agreement establishing the World Trade Organisation (WTO), during the transition period, amendments are required to be made in 3 stages i.e. by 1 January, 1995, 1 January, 2000 and 1 January, 2005.

By 1st January, 1995, means were to be established to receive product patent application and to provide exclusive marketing rights, on fulfilment of certain conditions, in the fields of pharmaceuticals and agricultural chemicals. By 1 January, 2000 India is required to increase the term of patent protection to 20 years, reverse of burden of proof in process patents, etc. By 1 January, 2005

products patent protection has to be extended to areas of technologies not protected so far, namely, food medicines and chemical products.

(b) Patents are granted by respective Governments under their patent laws and right thereunder are restricted to the territorial boundry of the country. Whenever information is received about patents being taken on certain products which are not considered patentable, steps are taken to assess whether grant of patent can be challenged.

Trade with Russia

621. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have entered into a long term trade agreement during the recent visit of the Prime Minister of erstwhile Soviet Union;

(b) if so, what are its salient features and the proposed quantum of increase in trade between the two countries;

(c) whether Government would ensure that such an agreement does not give unprecedented rise in the cost of leather and leather products in domestic market which had been scarce earlier because of exports to Soviet Union; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) A Joint Document on Development of Trade, Economic, Industrial, Financial, Scientific and Technological Cooperation was signed. The validity of the Joint Document is upto 2010. As per the Joint Document, the sides consider that there is a potential for increasing the volume of bilateral trade turnover to two times by 2000 and four times by 2005. The two sides agreed to take necessary steps to diversify the basket of bilateral trade by encouraging trade in non-tradi-