

processed or any ingredient of food, food additives or any food product that contains GM material and is being used either for Industrial production, Environmental release, or field application will be allowed only with the approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC). Institutes/Companies who wish to import GM material for R and D purposes will submit their proposal to the Review Committee for Genetic Modification (RCGM) under the Department of Bio-Technology. In case the Companies/Institutes use these Genetically Modified material for commercial purposes, approval of GEAC is also required. At the time of import, all consignments containing products, which have been subjected to Genetic Modification, will carry a declaration stating that the product is Genetically Modified. In case a consignment does not carry such a declaration and is later found to contain GM material, the importer is liable to penal action under the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act 1992.

Measures to boost export

858. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:

PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's exports is expected sharper slowdown in the first half of 2009;

(b) if so, the present position of exports in comparison to the last two years;

(c) whether Government have since taken any concrete steps to boost exports and to meet the targets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) India's exports during the current year as well as the last two years is given in the table below:—

India's Exports and Imports during 2006-07 and 2008-09 (April-December)

(Values in US \$ billion)

Year	Exports	% Growth	Imports	% Growth
2006-2007	126.3	22.5	185.6	24.4
2007-2008	163.0	29.1	251.6	35.5
2007-2008 (April-December) (P)	112.7	—	171.7	—
2008-2009 (April-December) (P)	132.0	17.1	225.8	31.5

(c) and (d) In the wake of global slowdown and fall in India's exports, Government has taken a number of measures to arrest deceleration in exports. The measures; *inter-alia*, include provision of interest subvention in pre and post-shipment export credit for labour intensive exports, provision of additional funds for full refund of Terminal Excise Duty/CST, Government back-up guarantee to ECGC to enable it to provide guarantees for exports to difficult markets/products, allocation of additional funds for export incentive schemes, etc.

Ban on Chinese toys

859. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has threatened to drag India to World Trade Organisation (WTO) if restrictions/ban imposed by the Indian Government on import of toys is not lifted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware that China is dispatching toys into the Indian markets through a third country;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to plug the loopholes in the rules ensure ban on Chinese toys; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Ambassador of People's Republic of China to India has expressed the concern of their Government regarding the ban on import of Chinese toys for six months with effect from 23.01.2009.

(c) and (e) *Vide* Policy circular No. 58 (RE-2008)/2004-09 dated 6.02.2009, it has been clarified by the Government that prohibition on import of toys from China shall be applicable on all toys which have originated from China, irrespective of the country of import.

Measures to survive labour intensive industries

860. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to inject adequate funds to provide to arrest the dwindling export market in view of the global recessionary trends;

(b) if so, the details of measures being taken to infuse liquidity so that medium and small industries, which are labour intensive, are not forced to slow down their operations in view of mounting inventory of finished goods due to shrinkage of international and national demands; and