

[20 November, 2001)

RAJYA SABHA

2001-02. A number of measures have been taken to boost exports which include reduction in the export credit rate for both pre-shipment and post-shipment, special financial package to manufacturer exporters with an export contract of Rs. 100 crores or above for a period of one year from October 2001, extension of normal repatriation period from 180 days to 360 days for exports made to Latin American countries for a period of one year and upward revision of duty drawback rates on a number of product groups. Export performance is constantly being monitored and suitable measures are being taken.

Export of Minerals

185. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) the details of various minerals which are being exported to different countries from Orissa presently;

(b) the public and private sector undertakings which are directly exporting these minerals;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to take over the export from private mine owners / companies; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) (a) and (b) Sir, major minerals that are presently being exported from Orissa by MTC, the canalizing agency of the Government, are iron ore and chrome ore. However, in order to bring in healthy competition and also in line with the progressive liberalized policy, certain private exporters who own iron ore mines have been allowed by the Government to make direct exports of the quantity, which is surplus to the requirement of domestic consumers and MMTC. These include M/s Essel Mining & Industries Ltd., Keonjhar, Orissa and M/s. Kaypee Enterprises Ltd., Barbil, Orissa. The details of exports of these minerals are given as under:

IRONORE	(Quantity in Lakh Metric Tonne)
Year	Quantity exported from Orissa
1998-1999	321
1999-2000	5.71
2000-2001	23.17

CHROME ORE

(Quantity in Lakh Metric Tonne)

Year	Quantity exported from Orissa
1998-1999	1.19
1999^2000	3.87
2000-2001	4.01

(c) In view of the position stated in para (a) and (b) above, there is no change in the policy of the Government.

(d) Question doesn't arise in view of reply to (c) above.

Projected Export Growth Rate

186. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) the growth of India's exports during April-August, 2001 as compared to April-August, 2000;

(b) whether the realised growth rate is consistent with the officially proclaimed annual target of 12 per cent growth; and

(c) if not, what measures are contemplated to realise the annual target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) As per the provisional data furnished by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Calcutta, the value of merchandise goods exports have registered a growth rate of—2.30% during April-August, 2001-02 as compared to the corresponding period of previous year. This is below the targetted growth rate of 12%. The global economic slow down particularly in the US, has led to this low export performance. A number of measures have been taken to boost exports which include reduction in the export credit rate for both pre-shipment and post-shipment, special financial package to manufacturer exporters with an export contract of Rs. 100 crores or above for a period of one year from October, 2001, extension of normal repatriation period from 180 days to 360 days for exports made to Latin American countries for a period of one year and upward revision of duty drawback rates on a number of product groups. The export performance is constantly being reviewed and suitable measures are being taken.