

"An appropriate seed programme to rapidly multiply consistently high quality seeds for wide distribution to farmers will be established."

(c) and (d) While the Government of India do not have information in regard to the yield per acre of individual farmers who are growing tomatoes under the Pepsi expertise, it has been reported by M/s. Punjab Agro Industries Corporation that some of the farmers who are cultivating tomatoes under the contract growing programme of Pepsi Foods Private Ltd. have got yields in excess of 30 tonnes per acre.

(e) The manufacture of soft drinks concentrate by M/s. Pepsi Foods Private Ltd. will be governed by the conditions in the letter of Intent.

#### **ASSOCHAM Suggestions for increasing Exports**

\*334. KUMARI CHANDRIKA  
PREMJI KENIA:  
SHRI PRAMOD  
MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received a letter dated the 8th May, 1990 from the President of ASSOCHAM suggesting steps to increase exports;

(b) if so, what are the major recommendations made therein;

(c) how much increase in exports in terms of money is anticipated five years from now if these recommendations are put into effect; and

(d) what action Government propose to take on the above recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Major recommendations made by the ASSOCHAM include diversification of export structure; strengthening of infrastructural facilities; expansion of amount of pre-shipment or post-shipment

credit, CCS, duty draw-back etc; stability in fiscal policies be ensured for five years to increase export of agro-industrial products; duty free import of plant and equipment for export production of agro-industrial items; adequate and regular flow of funds to Engineering Export Promotion Council to settle IPRS claims of engineering industry; encouraging leather imports by Government agencies for supply to manufacturer-exporter, etc.

(c) As exports are affected by various national and international factors and the suggestions made by ASSOCHAM are quite general in nature, it is difficult to quantify the additional exports that would accrue as a result of these suggestions.

(d) The Government is already aware of the needs of the exporters and the problems faced by them. However the suggestions made by ASSOCHAM have been noted for implementation to the extent possible under the overall strategy of the Government on export promotion.

#### **Raising of incidental credit facilities for farmers, landless workers and artisans**

\*335. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:

SHRI SHIV PRATAP  
MISHRA.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to raise incidental credit facilities up to 50 per cent under a time bound programme in favour of small and marginal farmers as also landless workers and artisans; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b) Presumably, the Hon'ble Members desire to know whether the banks' lending to small and marginal farmers, landless cultivators and artisans would be accelerated to achieve a prescribed target. In this connection, it may be stated that banks have been asked to raise the proportion of their credit to priority sector to 40% of their