

(d) if so, whether his Ministry has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry; and

(e) if so the response of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry thereon and the details of further steps Government proposes to take to protect SMEs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Imports from other countries, including China, could either be used as raw material/components for further production or as substitutes for domestically produced goods. As such, the precise effect of imported goods on small and medium enterprises in the country is varied and not quantifiable.

(c) to (e) The Directorate General of Anti Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) initiates anti-dumping investigations on the basis of applications filed by domestic industries, supported by evidence of dumping, injury and causal link between dumped imports and alleged injury to domestic industry. Such objections submitted by domestic industry are processed as per procedures and within the time limit specified under the Custom Tariff Act of 1975 (as amended in 1995) and the rules made thereunder. DGAD does not maintain any record with regard to the size/category (whether micro, small or medium)'of the applicants. As per available information, during the last three years DGAD has initiated 41 anti-dumping investigations, and anti-dumping duties have been levied in 23 cases.

Protection of small industry and handicraft from Chinese products

†816. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian small industry is lagging behind in the competitive race with the Chinese industry;

(b) whether Government is also aware that the Indian handicrafts sector is being completely affected by the Chinese market;

(c) if so, whether Government is taking any step to promote and protect the Indian small industry and handicraft; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The micro and small enterprises (MSE) sector in the country has registered a continuous increase in the number of enterprises, production and persons employed. In view of the different definition of MSEs in the two countries, any comparative assessment may not be possible. In so far as Indian handicrafts sector is concerned, China is one of the main competitors in the world market.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(c) and (d) To facilitate the promotion and development of micro and small enterprises (MSEs) and enhance their competitiveness, the Government announced a 'Policy Package for Stepping up Credit to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)' on 10 August 2005 which envisages public sector banks to fix their own targets for funding SMEs in order to achieve a minimum 20 per cent year-on-year growth in credit to the SME sector. The Government has also announced in February, 2007 a 'Package for Promotion of Micro and Small Enterprises' with an objective to provide support in areas of credit, technology upgradation, marketing, infrastructure etc. Further, the Government has enacted the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006 which has come into force from 2nd October, 2006. The Government is also implementing various schemes/programmes relating to credit, infrastructural development, technology upgradation, marketing, entrepreneurial/skill development, etc., for assisting the MSE sector in meeting the challenges. Some of the major schemes/programmes being implemented are Credit Guarantee Scheme, Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme, Performance and Credit Rating Scheme, Cluster Development Programme, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme and Market Development Assistance Scheme. To promote the handicraft sector, the Government is implementing specific schemes including Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana, Marketing Support and Services Scheme, Design and Technological Upgradation, Research & Development and Human Resource Development.

Proposal to boost SMEs

817. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to boost small and medium enterprises and also to increase their competitiveness with better infrastructure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether under the existing Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS), Government proposes to set up hubs for various sectors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The promotion and development of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and to enhance their competitiveness with better infrastructure are primarily the functions of the respective State Governments and UT Administrations. The Central Government, however, supplements the efforts by providing supportive measures aiming to boost MSMEs through specific schemes, which, *inter alia*, include the scheme for assistance for technology upgradation, comprehensive need based development of clusters, accessing the markets, improved infrastructure, facilities for training and capacity building of entrepreneurs, etc. For setting up of industrial estates for micro and small enterprises and to develop infrastructure facilities like power distribution network, water, roads, etc., the Integrated Infrastructure Development