

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The Government of India has sanctioned a scheme called Quality Upgradation and Product Diversification Scheme during the 11th Plan for encouraging setting up of tea manufacturing units in India including Assam for the benefit of both the entrepreneurs and small tea growers. Under the scheme, subsidy is extended for setting up of mini tea processing factories by the Self Help groups of small growers. The rate of subsidy provided is 40% of the unit cost subject to a ceiling limit of Rs.25 lakhs per factory. The subsidy is also provided for entrepreneurs for setting up new factories for making orthodox tea and specialty teas. The criteria fixed for sanctioning the subsidy amount to Self Help group of small growers is that the SHG should have a minimum of 50 growers as members of the group and the total tea area owned by the members shall not be less than 50 acres. So far as entrepreneurs are concerned, they should have a valid Registration Number issued by the Tea Board under Tea marketing Control Order. Economic viability of the proposals is evaluated by R&D institutions. Tea Board has not received any application for setting up new factories either by SHGs or by any entrepreneur for manufacturing orthodox tea.

Anti-dumping duty on import of Vitamin-C from China

2750. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of his Ministry that due to unregulated import of Vitamin-C from China, the domestic industry is suffering a lot;
- (b) if so, whether any representation has been received in his Ministry for imposition of anti-dumping duty on Vitamin-C from China;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action that has been contemplated by his Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) In order to counteract trade distortion caused by dumping and the consequential injury to the domestic industry, the Government has set up the Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) in the Department of Commerce to conduct antidumping investigations and make recommendations to the Central Government for imposition of antidumping measures, wherever appropriate. The Directorate of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) acts on the applications filed by the domestic industry with prima-facie evidence of dumping of goods, injury to the domestic industry and causal link between the dumped goods and injury to the domestic industry. Such petitions submitted by domestic industry are processed as per the procedures and within the time limits specified under the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 as amended in 1995 and the rules made thereunder. Anti-dumping duty on imports of Vitamin-C from China PR is in place since 16-4-1998. Recently, this duty was extended by the Department of

Revenue for a further period of five years vide their notification Nd. 67/2009-CUSTOMS dated 16.06.2009. This was done following recommendations made in the DGAD's final findings dated 21-5-2009 in a sunset review of the existing anti-dumping duty on imports of Vitamin-C from China.

Efforts to minimize job losses in traditional export industries

2751. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what efforts his Ministry is making to minimize job losses in our traditional export industries like handicrafts, textiles, etc.;

(b) to what extent the Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana (VKGUY) is helping the above sectors;

(c) the details of products listed under VKGUY;

(d) whether there are any plan before Government to include more products under VKGUY;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Government and RBI are closely monitoring the "economic developments in the country and the global situation, and have been taking appropriate steps to arrest the decline in exports. Measures announced so far, particularly for export sector, are given in statement [Refer to the statement appended to the Answer to Unstarred Question No. 2729.] including measures under Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana, (VKGUY).

(c) At present, there are around 900 items eligible for duty credit scrip benefit under the VKGUY Scheme. The duty credit scrip benefit is at the rate of 3.5% on FOB value of exports in cases where imported inputs are allowed duty free, or at higher rate of 5% on FOB value of exports in other cases. Further, an additional benefit at the rate of 2.5% of FOB value of exports is granted to specified fruits, vegetables, flowers, and marine products. The complete list of VKGUY items is available in Appendix-37A on the DGFT website: <http://dgft.gov.in>.

(d) to (f) Expansion of VKGUY scheme would depend upon additional funds made available to this department and the need-based assessment of the requirement of the specific export sectors.

Pending proposals for FDI in various sectors

†2752. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is pending with Government for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), in various sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.