

Clusters for development and expansion of SMEs

†814. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that clusters have been set up for the development and expansion of small and medium enterprises in the country;
- (b) if so, the total number of clusters existing in the country at present;
- (c) the number of total industrial units existing in these clusters; and
- (d) the additional facilities extended by Government to the units established in these clusters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. Industrial clusters throughout the country are being provided assistance by the Government for their holistic development.

(b) As per the report of Third All India Census of Small Scale Industries 2001-02, there are 1223 clusters in the registered SSI sector and 819 in the unregistered SSI sector.

(c) The total number of industrial units in clusters in the registered SSI sector are 4,55,139 and in clusters in the unregistered SSI sector are 14,55,754 as on 31st March 2007.

(d) Under cluster development programmes/schemes, soft interventions (training, exposure, workshops, seminars, market development, website development, etc.) and hard interventions (creation of tangible assets like Common Facility Centres for testing, design, research and development, training, etc.) are undertaken for the clusters, depending upon the requirements of the clusters. 438 clusters with financial approvals worth Rs 76.19 crore, have been undertaken under the 'Micro and Small Enterprises- Cluster Development Programme' of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

Adverse effect of cheap Chinese imports on SMEs

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

- (a) whether cheap Chinese imports have direct adverse effect on the small and medium enterprises in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether SMEs have asked Government to take strict anti-dumping measures to stop cheaper Chinese imports;

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(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.

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