

vehicles was announced and assistance to the States under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) provided for purchase of buses for urban transport system.

Further, a set of measures were announced for enhancing the flow of funds to the MSE sector.

The various measures to support exports include interest subvention of 2% for pre & post shipment export credit for identified labour intensive industries, additional allocation for export intensive schemes, additional funds towards providing guarantee by the Export Credit Guarantee Corporations (ECGC) and enhancements of duty draw back benefits on certain identified exportable items.

In addition, RBI has taken a number of steps to reduce the cost of credit and improve liquidity for the industry such as reduction of the Repo rates, reverse Repo rates, Cash reserve ratio etc.

As a consequence of various measures taken by the Government, there are early signs of recovery of the industrial sector. The index of industrial production which registered a negative growth rate of (-) 0.7% and (-) 0.8% in February and March 2009 respectively has improved to 1.4% in April, 2009 and further to 2.7 % in May, 2009.

Farmers displaced by SEZs

2756. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to carry out a survey of all farmers displaced by SEZs; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Land is a State subject. Land for Special Economic Zones (SEZs) is procured as per the policy and procedures of the respective State Governments. State Governments have been advised that in case of land acquisition for SEZs, first priority should be for acquisition of waste and barren land and if necessary single crop agricultural land could be acquired for the SEZs. If perforce a portion of double cropped agricultural land has to be acquired to meet the minimum area requirements, especially for multi-product SEZs, the same should not exceed 10% of the total land required for the SEZ. The Board of Approval for SEZs only considers those proposals, which have been duly recommended by the State Government. Further, pursuant to the decision of Empowered Group of Ministers (EGOM) in its meeting held on 5th April, 2007, the State Governments have been informed on 15th June, 2007 that the Board of Approval will not approve any SEZs where the State Governments have carried out or propose to carry out compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs after 5th April, 2007. As regards rehabilitation of displaced persons, State Governments have their own policies and procedures to deal with.

Fate of WTO negotiations

2757. SHRI RAM CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the fate of WTO negotiations and whether USA and European Countries have agreed to reduce their agriculture subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): The Doha Round of trade talks at the World Trade Organisation is still in underway. In some of the major international meetings held recently such as the G-20 held in London in April 2009, leaders including the US, EU and India have expressed commitment to reaching an ambitious and balanced conclusion to the Doha Development Round.

In the agricultural negotiations, India has been working closely with other developing countries to ensure substantial and effective reductions in agriculture subsidies. This would enable developing countries to promote the interests of and ensure a level playing field for their low income and resource poor farmers.

Accidents of MiG fighter planes

2758. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of MiG planes used by Air Force that met with accident during the last five years alongwith number of pilots who lost their life in these accidents;
- (b) whether Government has conducted any study to find out the reasons for their accidents;
- (c) the number of remaining MiG planes with the Air Force; and
- (d) whether Government has any other option to meet the shortfall of MiG planes?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) A total number of 32 MiG aircraft have met with accident during the last five years (from 1.4.2004 till date). A total number of 8 pilots have lost their lives in these accidents.

(b) to (d) Each accident in the Indian Air Force is investigated through a Court of Inquiry and remedial measures are undertaken accordingly. The fleet strength of the Indian Air Force is reviewed from time to time and necessary action is taken as per the operational requirement.

Revamping DRDO

2759. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) what action has been taken by Government on the report of Rama Rao Committee for revamping several ongoing projects of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO); and
- (b) the main strategic projects, the panel had suggested to revamp and why?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) The Rama Rao Committee submitted its Report to the Government on 5th March 2008. The Government has recently, constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Defence Secretary to look into the responses and suggestions made by various stake holders on the recommendations of the Rama Rao Committee.

Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.