

#### Effect of FTA with Japan

1972. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the Free Trade Agreement to be signed between India and Japan in the coming days can pose a threat to Indian genetic drug industry;
- (b) if so, the clarification of Government in this regard;
- (c) whether Government wants to bring misuse of patent laws under the purview of criminal liability; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) FTA with Japan is under negotiation and the terms of the Agreement are far from being finalized.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### Decline in export due to erosion in demand in international market

1973. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India's exports have suffered due to erosion in demand from the international market during the recent and current global economic meltdown;
- (b) if so, how India's export during 2008-09 fell as compared to those during 2007-08 and 2006-07; and
- (c) the main items of export in respect of which the trade has considerably come down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Quick Estimates of monthly trade statistics compiled by DGCI&S indicate declining trend in India's merchandise exports during the last few months. While there are various contributory factors, recession, particularly in the developed countries leading to erosion in demand, is a significant factor. Sectors affected by Global Recession in terms of reduction in exports in 2008-09 as per data provided by DGCI&S are Marine Products, Iron Ore, Gems & Jewellery, Cotton Yarn/Fabrics/Made-ups, Carpets, Handicrafts, Project Goods, Plastics & Linoleum etc. Merchandise Exports figures for last three years are indicated below:—

(Value in US\$ billion)

Year	Exports	% Growth
2006-07	126.26	22.5
2007-08	163.12	29.2
2008-09	168.70	3.4

Data Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata

Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.