

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some State Governments have opposed this proposal;
- (d) if so, the names of these States and what are their objections; and
- (e) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (e) Central Government has recognized the pivotal role of State Governments in the Setting up and successful operation of SEZs. The Board of Approval (BOA) for SEZ does not consider any proposal unless recommended by State Governments. Section 50 of the SEZ Act, 2005 read with rule 5(5) of the SEZ Rule, 2006 envisage that the State Government may notify policies for developers and units and take suitable steps for enactment of any law granting exemption from State Taxes, levies and duties to the developer or the entrepreneur, delegating the powers conferred upon any persons or authority under any State Act to the Development Commissioner in relation to the developer or entrepreneur.

Some of States viz. Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu etc. have since enacted State SEZ Act and Rules.

#### **Sharp decline in country's export**

2163. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:  
SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country's exports registered a sharp decline in September this year, year-on-year basis;
- (b) if so, to what extent; and
- (c) the reasons for such sharp fall in exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) As per the quick estimates of DGCI&S, merchandise exports in September, 2009 was US\$ 13.608 billion, registering a decline of 13.8% in comparison to the same period last year. Decline in India's merchandise exports since October, 2008 can be attributed significantly to shrinkage of demand in developed countries due to global economic slowdown, and the reduced international prices of commodities.

#### **Training to small tea growers by Tea Board**

2164. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:  
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state: