

(iii) CCS have been given on export of oil meals and fresh fruits and vegetables.

(iv) Export Duty on Tabacco has been abolished.

Industrial Goods:

(i) Setting up of Export Promotion Councils for Engineering Goods & Computer Software and Overseas Construction Council.

(ii) 35 thrust industries with the maximum potential for export have been identified and detailed export strategy packages are being prepared for these 35 thrust engineering industries.

(iii) It has been decided that the facility of raw materials at international prices will be extended to all major export sectors where raw materials are used for export production.

(b) The Government is aware of the vast potential of expanding trade with developing countries. In this connection, India *inter-alia* played a leading role in the launching of the first round of negotiations on the exchange of trade concessions within the Global System of Trade Preferences, which would involve negotiations in the areas of tariff and non-tariff barriers and also direct trade measures such as long term contracts. Other mechanisms for expanding trade with developing countries including joint commission are utilised for expanding trade and economic relation with developing countries.

(c) The Government have taken a series of policy decisions and measures to provide incentives to export oriented industries. These include making available Capital Goods and machinery which are not produced in the country, for export production or for improving the quality of products for exports for the thrust sectors at lower rates of duties on a case by case basis; supply of raw materials at international prices through schemes

such as the one that has been in operation for Steel, Rubber and certain chemicals, to other important areas and cover consumables where they form a significant part of the cost; liberal approach for making available contemporary technology for thrust sectors, where necessary linked to export obligation, exemption from the requirement of licensing expansion of capacity exclusively for export production; pre-shipment credit for export production at 9.5 per cent interest for 180 days; allowing the use of 5 to 10 per cent net foreign exchange earnings by exporters for export promotion.

Action against sub-standard goods manufacturers

2015. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether strict action is proposed against sub-standard goods manufacturers as this is coming in the way of export promotion and is projecting poor image of the country as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 30th October, 1986; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the manufacturers who maintain high standards of production both for internal consumption and export would be suitably recognised and rewarded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) Penal action is taken against erring exporters of sub-standard goods and they are punished under the provision of the export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963 and also under Customs Act. The exporters are also liable for de-registration from the membership in the respective EPCs/Commodity Boards in case Quality complaints are established. Manufacturers who maintain high standards of production for exports are allowed under the Act to certify their products for export themselves.

Awards are given by the Export Promotion Councils for outstanding export performance. While giving Export Awards adherence to quality is considered.

Unreported bonded labour

2016. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is still a large number of unreported cases of bonded labour in the country as reported in the 'Times of India' of the 30th October, 1986; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to advise the public servants all over the country to report any case of bonded labour known to them to the respective State authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Under the existing scheme of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, complaint can be made by anybody about the existence of Bonded Labourers to the authorities. Identification of bonded labour is the responsibility of State Governments. State Governments are advised from time to time to take action to identify bonded labour.

Norms for appointment of Chairmen and Directors on the Boards of Corporations under the Ministry of Commerce

2017. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the norms for appointment of Chairmen and Directors on the Boards of STC, MMTC and other Corporations under the Ministry of Commerce;

(b) how many corporations are at present functioning under his Ministry;

(c) what are the details of Chairmen, Managing Directors and other

Directors of each such Corporation including STC and MMTC regarding their date of appointment, term of office, remuneration, perquisites and other facilities; and

(d) whether any social or political worker or workers from voluntary organisations or consumer movements are considered for appointment on the Boards of STC etc., in preference to business executives or a bureaucrat and whether presently they are represented on these Boards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Appointments of Chairmen and Directors on the Boards of STC, MMTC and other Corporations under the Ministry of Commerce are made by the President in terms of Articles of Association of these Corporations, after due recourse to the procedure prescribed in this regard by the Bureau of Public Enterprises and the Department of Personnel and Training.

(b) There are 9 public sector undertakings under this Ministry.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Appointments to the Board of Directors of these Corporations are made based on the suitability of the individual concerned and requirement. Presently there are no such workers on the Board of STC etc.

Loans to cashew factories in Kerala by Indian Overseas Bank

2018. SHRI T. R. BALU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of loans given by the Indian Overseas Bank to cashew factories in Kerala during the last three years, year-wise and factory-wise;