

velopment Board has offered to export Indian goods as reported in the 'Economic Times' dated the 24th October, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what efforts have been made by various Export Promotion Councils and Boards to increase exports; and

(d) whether any delegations' missions are proposed to be sent abroad to explore new trade outlets during the Seventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Government have not received any such officer.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Various steps like improvement in quality standards, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, conducting market surveys, exchange of commercial delegation etc. are being undertaken by the various Export Promotion Councils and Boards to increase exports of commodities and iteras.

(d) Yes, Sir.

#### Dry Port at Ahmedabad

2013. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an internal Container Depot or a Dry Port is likely to start operating shortly at Ahmedabad;

(b) when it is likely to start operations;

(c) whether the location for the Dry Dock has been finalised; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) It has been proposed to locate an Inland Container Depot at Ahmedabad. The modalities of and the schedules for establishing the facility have not been decided.

(c) and (d) A site in Thaltej Village near Ahmedabad has been identified as a possible location.

#### Export of agricultural and industrial goods

2014. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to improve the export of agricultural commodities and industrial goods in the country during the current financial year;

(b) whether Government have had any negotiation with the industrially developing countries for export of finished product from India; and

(c) if so, what are the details of incentives being given by Government to export-oriented industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) A number of steps have been taken during the current financial year for improving the export of agricultural and industrial goods. These include:

#### Agriculture:

(i) Setting up of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority and Spices Board.

(ii) Special charter arrangements for export of mangoes to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia during the mango season.

(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.