

- (a) whether it is a fact that annual industrial growth rate in the country has increased in the first nine months of the year 2009-10;
- (b) if so, the assessment thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the formulation of new National Manufacturing Policy is needed in order to increase this growth rate and give it proper direction;
- (d) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and
- (e) whether it has also been decided to promote use of labour intensive technique in the proposed new policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The industrial growth measured in terms of Index of Industrial Production (IIP) has recovered to 8.6 per cent in the first nine months of 2009-10 (April-December) compared to 3.6 per cent during the corresponding period last year *i.e.* 2008-09 (April-December).

(c) to (e) The Government has decided to formulate a National Manufacturing Policy to accelerate industrial growth. The specific elements including promotion of labour intensive techniques are under consideration.

Setting up of Instructor Training Wing at ITI Malampuzha, Palakkad

590. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal under consideration for setting up of Instructor Training Wing at ITI Malampuzha, Palakkad; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Directorate General of Employment and Training (DGE&T) is implementing World Bank assisted Vocational Training Improvement Project (VTIP). The project *inter alia* envisages setting up of Instructor Training Wing (ITW) within identified ITI to enhance the capacity of Crafts Instructor Training. The State Government of Kerala has submitted proposal for setting up of ITW in ITI Malampuzha, Palakkad.

Ban on import of sandstone

†591. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any kind of recommendation on imposing a ban on import of sandstone by America;
- (b) if so, the action being taken by Government thereon; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.