

Stress” on 27-07-2006. The major claim in this application was that Withania somnifera plant extract or Ashwagandha could be used in the treatment of induced stress, depression, insomnia, gastric ulcer and convulsions.

The Council of Scientific & Industrial Research through its TKDL unit submitted evidence to European Patent Office on 06.07.2009. The Examiners at EPO in their examination report issued on 09.11.2009 cited the TKDL reference and concluded that the claims made in the Patent application could not be considered as novel. M/s. Natreon INC has since withdrawn its application.

Review of procedures for Acquisition of land for SEZs

3549. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to review the procedures for acquisition of land for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and other incentives provided to these SEZs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has decided to defer further actions regarding grant of approval for setting up of SEZs in the country to prevent misuse of land and tax concessions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Land is a State subject. Land for SEZs is procured as per the policy and procedures of the respective State Governments. As per the current policy, the Board of Approval does not approve any SEZs, where the State Governments have carried out or propose to carry out compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs after 5th April, 2007.

(c) No Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Package for the leather sector

3550. SHRI B. S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the labour intensive leather industry which predominantly concentrated in the Small and Medium Enterprises segment has sought additional support from Government;

(b) whether the industry has also appealed the Government to come out with a suitable package for the leather sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has undertaken a comprehensive development plan for the Leather Sector under the Indian Leather Development Programme (ILDP) during the 11th Five Year Plan period at an outlay of Rs. 1300 crore for overall development of the leather industry. Thirteen sub-schemes under ILDP have been approved for implementation during the 11th Five Year Plan. These are as under:-

Sl.No.	Name of the sub-scheme under ILDP	Allocation for 11th Five Year Plan (Rs. in crore)
1	Integrated Development of Leather Sector	253.43
2	Leather Complex, Nellore	29.00
3	Footwear Design & Development Institute (FDDI), Fursatganj	7.17
4	Footwear Complex, Chennai	3.00
5	Saddlery Development	10.00
6	Support to Artisans	40.00
7	Human Resource Development	60.00
8	Up-gradation and Establishment of Institutional facilities	300.07
9	Mission Mode	10.00
10	Establishment of Training Centre in Madhya Pradesh	24.85
11	Environment Initiatives	200.00
12	Development of Leather Parks	300.00
13	Construction of Additional Girls Hostel in FDDI, Fursatganj	13.77
TOTAL		1251.29

In addition, fiscal incentives which include import of specified machinery at concessional rates, duty free import of critical inputs to the extent of 3% of Freight on Board (FOB) value of previous year export and financial assistance under Market Access Initiative and Market Development Assistance schemes are also available for the Leather Sector.

Mega National Manufacturing Investment Zones

3551. SHRI K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is fact that Government proposes to set up Mega National Manufacturing Investment Zones;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total investment proposed; and
- (d) the targets fixed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) A discussion paper on a National Manufacturing Policy has been put on the website to elicit views from stakeholders and enable Government to take an informed decision. The concept of National Manufacturing and Investment Zones is a part of the discussion paper. The concept is at a very initial stage of discussion.

Land acquired for industries not being used

3552. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a lot of agricultural land is being occupied by the industries, which is lying idle and not being used;
- (b) whether it is a fact that agricultural land allotted to industries for establishment of industry; but nothing have been done there since long;
- (c) if so, whether Government has any plan to take back all these unused agricultural land; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) No specific information is available regarding agricultural land allotted for industry not being used. However, under the National Rehabilitation and