

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

### Incentive to labour intensive sectors

156. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of labour intensive sectors that have been given Rs. 1052 crores incentives recently; and
- (b) to what extent this incentive helps in achieving the US \$ 200 billion export target for 2010-11?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MAHADAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Government has extended supportive measures/incentives to different export sectors, in particular, the labour intensive sectors like handicrafts, handloom, textiles, leather and leather products, toys and sports goods, chemicals, engineering, electronics, plantation.

Arrest in decline of exports and its movement to positive trajectory since October, 2009 clearly indicates that while the impact of global economic slowdown is still continuing on our exports, the supports/incentives have significantly contributed in the export growth.

### Discussion paper on FDI in multibrand retail trading

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has released a discussion paper on the subject of 'Foreign Direct Investment in multi-brand retail trading';
- (b) if so, the main objectives thereof;
- (c) whether its impact on farmers and small traders in the unorganized sector has been examined; and
- (d) if so, the final decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MAHADAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) The existing policy allows for 51% FDI in only single brand retail subject to specified conditions. The further liberalization of this policy has been

under consideration of the Government. Towards this end, the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has released a Discussion Paper on the subject of 'Foreign Direct Investment in Multi-Brand Retail Trading', with the aim of generating informed discussion on the subject and obtaining the views and comments of various stakeholders. The impact on farmers and small traders, the possible strategy to protect interests of these groups and the likely impact on the capacity building of storage of food grains, fruits and vegetables etc. have also been examined in the discussion paper. The discussion paper is available in the public domain. The comments received thereon are presently being examined by an Inter-Ministerial Committee in the Department of Consumer Affairs. The committee will examine and analyze the responses and provide necessary inputs for proposed policy action. Government has yet to take a final view.

**Opening of new sectors in China for Indian companies**

†158. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to China, there is a plan or proposal of Government to open sectors like medicines, IT and Government contracts in China for Indian companies;

(b) whether this initiative will help Government to meet the trade imbalance of 20 billion dollar;

(c) whether the demand to open up more Chinese markets for Indian products has been made during the meeting of the Minister of Commerce and Industry with his Chinese counterpart Chen Deming; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MAHADAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) At the various bilateral meetings between India and China, the Government of India has been raising, from time to time, the issue of increased market access for Indian products in China in sectors like Pharmaceuticals, Information Technology, etc. where India has a comparative advantage.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.