

under market development schemes such as Market Development Assistance (MDA) and Marketing Access Initiatives (MAI). Labour-intensive sectors like Handicrafts, Carpets, Handlooms, Toys and Sports goods, Textiles, Leather and Leather products, Engineering, Electronics, Chemicals, agri-products etc. are entitled for the benefits under most of these schemes. Under the incentive schemes stated above, cashew exports are entitled for incentive under VKGUY scheme @5% of FOB value of exports.

#### **Transfer of MMTC shares in NINL to PSUs**

1566. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to sell or transfer the shares of Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation Ltd. (MMTC) in Nilachal Ispat Nigam Limited at Kalinganagar to any PSU or Private Sector industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof of the stage of negotiations with each company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Committee of Secretaries recommended the merger of NINL with SAIL and appointment of merchant banker for valuation of NINL. While the proposal of merger of NINL with SAIL could not progress, in the meanwhile, RINL had shown interest to have stake in NINL as a strategic investor. The issue is under discussion stage at present.

#### **Measures to boost export sector**

†1567. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that more attention is required to be given to boost country's export sector and export sector should be expanded more and more even if it required changes in the export policy of the country;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to do something for this sector;

(c) whether country's export has increased this year in comparison to the last three years and to what extent it has increased; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The Government and RBI have been closely monitoring the economic developments in the country and internationally on a continuous basis, with special emphasis on monitoring the performance of export sectors. Sectoral performance reviews of export sectors are being conducted at regular interval and need based support measures are undertaken, keeping in view the need based supports and the financial implications thereof.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.