

(b) whether the cases of misuse of these schemes have come into light;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the number of cases of misuse came before Government during the last three years, State-wise details thereof; and

(d) the details of steps being taken to curb such misuse and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The schemes under implementation to increase the foreign trade and exports in the country are either product specific or market specific. There is also a mix of the two called Market Linked Focus Product Scheme (MLFPS). Under each scheme, the benefit of a certain percentage of FOB value is given to the exporter. Product specific schemes are: Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana, also called VKGUY (benefit is either 5% or reduced rate of 3% in certain cases, and additional 2% to some items); Focus Products Scheme, also called FPS (benefit is either 2% or 5% normally, additional 2% bonus given in certain cases; thus, the rates under FPS could be either 2%, 5%, 4% or 7%). Market specific scheme is Focus Market Scheme or FMS (benefit is 3%). Under Market Linked Focus Product Scheme (MLFPS) which is a mix between product specific and market specific schemes, a benefit of 2% is given. In addition to above, to incentivize service exports there is a scheme called Served From India Scheme (SFIS) which gives a benefit of 10% of foreign exchange earned in respect of certain specified service sectors. Further Status Holder in respect of some sectors are given an additional benefit of 1% under Status Holders Incentive Scrip (SHIS) scheme. Finally under Agri. Infrastructure Incentive Scrip (AIS) a benefit of 10% (inclusive of VKGUY benefit) is given to Status Holders. SHIS and AIS are for import of specified capital goods to improve the production capability.

Greater details of these schemes, exact list of products, names of markets are available at pages 34 to 43 of the Foreign Trade Policy 2009-14 updated from time to time and pages 262 to 305 of Handbook of Procedures Vol. I 2009-14 updated from time to time.

(b) to (d) No instances of misuse of the schemes by the exporters have come to notice.

Use of more than permissible lead in branded paints

2172. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Quality Council of India initiated study revealed shocking findings of lethal lead levels in majority of enamel paints available in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government has initiated any action to monitor the quality of paints marketed in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Quality Council of India (QCI) has supported a study undertaken by National Referral Center for Lead Poisoning in India (NROLPI) on the evaluation of lead content in paints manufactured in India. The lead content was found to be much higher than the BIS voluntary standard.

(b) and (c) Government has taken up the matter with the stake holders including paint manufacturers. The Technical Committee of the Bureau of Indian Standards has constituted three Panels to review all the published IS specifications in the light of lead restrictions and lead-free clause.

Shortage of agricultural products due to exports

†2173 SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BALAPTE:

SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there would be a shortage of agricultural products and vegetable in domestic market by giving relaxation to their export and consequently their price would rise; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government to ensure their sufficient availability in domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Export of agricultural products depends on several factors including domestic and international demand and supply situation. Whenever, there is scarcity or short supply of any product in the domestic market, government prohibits or restricts exports to ensure availability of such products to consumers at reasonable price.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.