

(b) and (c) Government is aware that paints with varying degrees of lead content are produced in the country, as there are no mandatory standards to regulate lead content in paints so far. Paints is not a restricted item for export.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Increase in trade deficit**

3724. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite the economy's growth and the growth of exports, the trade deficit is increasing alarmingly;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether Government is considering to take measures to bring down the trade deficit;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether encouraging the domestic manufacturing industry for a greater output would play a role to bring down the deficit; and

(f) if so, the details thereof with Government measures on the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) The Trade deficit in the last three years 2008-2009, 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 has been falling as shown below:

Values in Rs. crore

S.No	Year	Export	Import	Trade Deficit
1.	2008-2009	8,40,755	13,74,436	-533,681
2.	2009-2010	8,45,534	13,63,736	-518,202
3.	2010-2011*	11,57,475	16,09,019	-451,544

\*figures for 2010-11 are provisional and subject to change

(e) and (f) Domestic manufacturing industry is provided deemed export benefits, for specified categories of supplies, as given in Chapter 8 of Foreign Trade Policy. It helps in import substitution and thereby in bringing down the trade deficit.

#### **Fall in industrial production growth rate**

3725. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the country's industrial production growth has fallen considerably in the past few months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has since taken any corrective measures to check the fall in industrial production growth; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Industrial growth measured in terms of Index of Industrial Production (IIP) improved from 2.5% in 2008-09 to 5.3% in 2009-10 and further to 8.2% in 2010-11. In the first quarter of current year, the growth moderated to 6.8% compared to a growth of 9.6% in the first quarter of the previous year. The moderation in the growth in the first quarter was largely on account of a moderation of growth in the mining sector. Consumer durables and intermediates within the manufacturing sector also witnessed moderation in growth. Hardening of interest rates to some extent affected the growth in these segments.

(c) and (d) The major focus areas for improving the industrial climate during the Eleventh Plan have been the creation of world class infrastructure; promotion and facilitation of industrial investment including the foreign direct investment; improvement in business environment; and development of industry relevant skills. The Union Budget 2011-12, has clearly indicated that for sustained growth of GDP and productive employment for younger generation, it is imperative that the growth in manufacturing sector picks up. Government is considering a manufacturing policy, which will bring down the compliance burden on the industry through self-regulation and help make Indian industry globally competitive. This will improve the growth rates for manufacturing and industry.

#### **Assistance to States for infrastructure for exports**

3726. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Governments are assisted for Infrastructural Development of Export Schemes for creating appropriate infrastructures for the development and growth of exports; and
- (b) if so, the State and sector-wise details of outcome?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Department of Commerce is operating Assistance to States for Developing Export Infrastructure and Allied Activities (ASIDE) scheme with the objective to involve the States in their export effort by providing assistance to the State