

have to step in, both by providing substantial funds and by facilitating the use of additional mechanisms for funding, which will require the strengthening of own finances of ULBs. The latter, in turn, requires reforms in governance at all levels.

23. The Government of India will have to take a leadership role in financing a major part of the programme and, at the same time, facilitate and encourage the involvement of state governments and ULBs. State governments will have to contribute by way of a constitutionally mandated revenue-sharing arrangement with the ULBs. On their part, the ULBs will carry out reforms in governance and financing to deliver public services of specified norms to all including the poor. This should be done within a framework of accountability. Rising aspirations of the increasing numbers of people in urban India will make further demands on ULBs, and community participation will be an important factor in ensuring accountability.

Effect of downgrading of US on India's exports

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the downgrading of US is likely to affect India's exports;
- (b) if so, what is the likely impact; and
- (c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) On 5th August, 2011, international credit rating agency Standard and Poor's downgraded the US credit rating by one notch from AAA to AA+. The downgrade appears unlikely to have any significant impact on Indian exports.

(b) Other things remaining the same, lower credit ratings tend to raise borrowing costs for the downgraded entity. With regard to the US Government, no significant impact is discernible at this time and, in general, analysts are not predicting any major impact in the future. In the circumstances secondary impacts like upward pressure on interest rates and adverse impact on US demand for goods and services, including that for Indian exports to the US, are also not likely to be significant. Consequently the impact on the global economy and India's overall exports also appears unlikely to be significant. It is, however, pertinent that the global economic scenario is complex, and is impacted by a multitude of factors that go beyond the immediate issue of the US downgrade.

(c) India's foreign trade policy includes comprehensive measures to safeguard and promote Indian exports.

Liberhan Commission Report

†*320. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry had submitted the Liberhan Commission Report to CBI for further action, but CBI has turned down the Report as unfit for taking action, as reported in the 'Dainik Jagaran' dated 22 May, 2011;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what is the factual position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) Following the submission of the Report of Liberhan Ayodhya Commission of Inquiry, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, had asked CBI *vide* its letter No. 71013/5/09-AY dated 27.11.2009 to take necessary steps to expedite the hearing of case Nos. 197/92, 198/92 and 47 other cases pending in the Special Courts of Rae Bareilly and Lucknow. CBI took appropriate steps and informed the Government of the steps taken. *Vide* D.O. letter No. 71013/5/2009-AY dated 23.12.2009, the CBI were also requested to examine and take further action on certain paragraphs of the report of the Commission, regarding, *inter-alia*, collection transfer and receipt of monies that funded the campaign that eventually resulted in destruction of disputed structure, and roles and criminal liabilities of 68 persons indicted in the Report of Liberhan Ayodhya Commission of Inquiry.

CBI submitted a report to the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Ministry of Home Affairs has made further observations and asked for a response from the CBI. The matter is under examination by the CBI.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Andhra Pradesh on top in SEZs

2326. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh is on the top in SEZs compared to other States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the business recorded like exports and imports from such SEZs during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period, year-wise?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.