

Interest subsidy to exporters

3124. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had approved an additional Rs.800 Crore for extending interest subsidy to exporters till March, 2012;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the above subsidy will be over and above the concessions already announced by Government; and

(d) if so, whether Government has received any feedback from the export organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) Government has announced Interest Rate Subvention Scheme of two per centage points on Rupee export credit to four employment oriented sectors, viz., Handicrafts, Handlooms, Carpets and Small & Medium Enterprises from 1st April, 2011 to 31st March, 2012. Banks have been advised to reduce the interest rate chargeable to exporters as per Base Rate system in the above mentioned sectors. This was generally appreciated by the exporters.

SEZ in Assam

3125. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Assam;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it will be very helpful for the development of Assam, if Special Economic Zone is established there; and

(d) whether Government will consider it in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a), (b) and (d) Special Economic Zone may be established either jointly or severally by the Central Government, State Governments or any person