

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 2nd May, 2012/12th Vaisakha, 1934 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN, in the Chair.

REFERENCE BY THE CHAIR

To the victims of Ferryboat mishap in Assam

MR. CHAIRMAN : Honourable Members, as you are aware, a double-decker ferry carrying more than 250 passengers got caught in a fierce cyclonic storm over the Brahmaputra in the Dhubri district of Assam on 30th April, 2012, in which more than 100 persons have reportedly drowned and around 150 are still missing.

The loss of so many innocent lives is indeed tragic and unfortunate. I am sure the whole House will join me in expressing our heartfelt condolences and sympathy to the bereaved families.

I request Members to rise in their places and observe silence as a mark of respect of the memory of those who lost their lives in this tragedy.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Adverse impact of Euro zone crisis on exports

*361. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of recent Euro Zone crisis, the growth rate of country's exports has come down abruptly in the last few months;

(b) if so, whether the trade deficit has widened due to debt in Europe and uncertain recovery in U.S.;

(c) if so, whether Government has since taken any steps to tackle the increasing trade deficit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on th Table of the House.