

of both the countries open the gate and parade at a certain time every day and thousands of people from both the countries gather there daily to watch it;

(b) whether this daily activity of soldiers and officers of army of both the countries at Wagah border in Punjab has led to creation of goodwill in both the countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. BSF of India and Pakistan Rangers of Pakistan take part in evening parade (Retreat Ceremony) daily at 1630 hrs. in winter and 1730 hrs. in summer at Gate No. 1 at Attari-Wagah border near Amritsar on International Border. This event is watched daily by thousands of spectators from both the countries. The popularity of the event and daily presence of large crowds has led to creation of goodwill in both the countries.

Credibility of Government's data collection system

*377. SHRI ANIL DESAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the credibility of Government's data collection system has taken a major beating with the figure for the country's industrial growth rate for February, 2012 being charged from 6.8 percent to a meagre 1.14 percent;

(b) whether it is a fact that in December, 2011, India's export growth numbers were scaled down by around 7 percent as it was found that the official data got inflated due to a snag in the computer software; and

(c) if so, what steps Government is taking to prevent such blunders taking place again?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA) : (a) The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation on a monthly basis. As informed by the Ministry, at the time of compilation of IIP for the month of February, 2012, it was detected that in the IIP for January, 2012, the production data of sugar was incorrectly reported. Immediately after the detection of the error, the revised growth rate for the month of January, 2012 was compiled. Due to this change and also minor updation of data received from other source agencies, the growth rate for January, 2012 was revised from 6.8% to 1.1%. The Quick Estimate (QE) of February, 2012 has been released by the CSO on 12th April, 2012 indicating IIP growth rate at 4.1%.

(b) The provisional trade data are released by the Government on a monthly basis. During August, 2011, some discrepancies in export figures were noticed and immediately the matter was verified in detail. It was seen that at the time of generation of Daily Transaction Report (DTR), some transaction records got repeated and as a result certain data got counted more than once. Once such discrepancies were detected, Central Bureau of Excise and Custom (CBEC) was requested to modify their software used in the DTR generation and the entire data from April, 2011 on wards were revisited. At the time of preparation of trade data for the Month of November, 2011 (released in the month of December 2011), the provisional export figures for April-October, 2011, were revised by reconciling the discrepancies and also by incorporating additional data for the previous months received in the intervening period. This resulted in the provisional export numbers from April to October 2011 being reduced by 5.2% from US \$179.77 Billion to US \$170.37 Billion

(c) In order to prevent recurrence of errors relating to industrial production data, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, has requested all concerned data source agencies to adhere to the time frame for supplying monthly production data. As regards prevention of errors in trade data, Director General (Systems), CBEC, has been requested to review the entire software used so that such mistakes do not occur in future.

Allocation of Funds to Bihar by Ministry

*378. SHRI SABIR ALI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds/amounts given to/spent in Bihar by the Ministry and its various organizations during the last three years and the current year, so far;
- (b) the purposes for which these funds were given/spent; and
- (c) the steps being taken to increase these funds?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE) : (a) to (c) The Scheme-wise details of fund allocated/spent in Bihar the purpose for which given/spent and the steps taken to increase funds, during the last three years and the current year under Plan and Non-Plan Schemes of Ministry of Labour & Employment are given in the Statement I and II respectively.