

EPCG Scheme; relief from export obligations under EPCG Scheme to some sectors; allowance of 10% of Status Holders Incentive Scrip to import components and spares of Capital goods imported earlier etc.

**Slow growth rate of rubber cultivation**

2638. SHRI JOY ABRAHAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rubber cultivation of which 1.19 million are small holdings has registered a growth rate of only 3.6 per cent during 2011-12 due to sharp increase in the price of fertilizers;

(b) whether Government is prepared to give at least 20 per cent of expenses for cultivation of Rubber as subsidy to small holders during the Twelfth Plan as an incentive to replant trees and for new planting;

(c) how much cultivation subsidy through Rubber Board was given during the Eleventh Plan to small holders; and

(d) the per hectare cultivation cost of Rubber during the Twelfth Plan as per the Rubber Board studies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Rubber cultivated area increased by 3.6% in 2011-12 over the previous year. The annual growth rate of rubber cultivated area in 2011-12 is comparable to the growth rates recorded in the two previous years at 3.6% and 3.7% respectively. Decision on planting rubber is mainly influenced by rubber prices.

(b) During Eleventh Five Year Plan, subsidy for new planting and replanting of Rubber was 20% of development cost of raising rubber plantations in traditional regions (Kerala and Tamil Nadu) and 25% of the development cost in non-traditional regions including North East. However, the Twelfth Plan proposals have not yet been finalised.

(c) The rate of subsidy for new planting and replanting of rubber in traditional regions during Eleventh Plan was Rs. 19,500 per ha. The rate of subsidy of new planting and replanting of rubber in non-traditional regions including North East during Eleventh Plan was Rs. 22,000 per ha.

(d) As per the Rubber Board studies, the estimates of development/cultivation cost per ha of rubber plantations at 2011-12 prices in traditional, non-traditional other than North East and North East regions are Rs.3,13,000, Rs.2,30,000 and Rs.2,14,500 per ha respectively.

**Fall in industrial output**

2639. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether industrial output fell by 1.8 per cent in June, 2012 as compared to growth of 9.5 per cent in the same month last year;
- (b) if so, the reasons for this fall in industrial output;
- (c) what efforts are being made to sustain growth in Industrial output; and
- (d) what will be the impact of this drop on the overall economic scenario and economic growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The fall in the Industrial growth in June, 2012 compared to its growth in the corresponding month of the last year is mainly on account of decline in the growth rates of mining and manufacturing production. Major reasons for decline in manufacturing include global economic uncertainty, sluggish domestic demand, hardening of interest rates etc., whereas regulatory and environmental issues, court orders, decline in international demand for metallic minerals etc. are affecting production in the mining sector.

(c) Government has already taken confidence building measures for improving industrial climate and manufacturing in the country. Government had approved the National Manufacturing Policy (NMP) in October, 2011 with the objectives of enhancing the share of manufacturing in GDP to 25% by 2022 and creating additional 100 million jobs. One of the instruments in the NMP is the creation of National Investment and Manufacturing Zones (NIMZ) as planned integrated industrial townships. Nine NIMZs have been announced, eight of which are along the Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC). Other measures include the promotion and facilitation of industrial investment including promotion of foreign direct investment through consolidation of press notes into a single document;