

In addition the various measures announced in the Budget Proposals for 2013-14 highlight the Government's priorities for arresting the moderation in industrial growth.

Review of operation of price stabilisation fund trust

1718. DR K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has reviewed the operation of the Price Stabilisation Fund Trust;

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the period of operation of the Price Stabilisation Fund is likely to end on 28 February, 2013; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to extend it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF) Scheme has been reviewed by various Committee set up by the Government from time to time, namely, Dr Pronab Sen Committee, Rangachary Task Force and High Powered Sub-Committee. On the recommendation of these Committee, particularly High Powered Sub-Committee, a Modified Price Stabilisation Fund (MPSF) Scheme is being formulated.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The ongoing Price Stabilisation Fund Scheme, launched in April, 2003 for a period of 10 years, is closing on 31.03.2013. There is no proposal to extend the ongoing Price Stabilisation Fund Scheme beyond 31.03.2013. However, the restructured and Modified Price Stabilisation Fund Scheme, addressing the identified bottlenecks of the ongoing Scheme and making it more beneficiary friendly, is being formulated.

Transparency in the process of Indo-EU FTA

1719. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of the India-EU Free Trade Agreement talks;

(b) whether Government has consulted the State Governments and the political parties about the treaty;