

Significant changes have been made in the FDI policy regime in the recent times, to ensure that India remains increasingly attractive and investor-friendly.

Government plays an active role in investment promotion, through dissemination of information on the investment climate and opportunities in India and by advising prospective investors about investment policies and procedures and opportunities. International Cooperation for industrial partnerships is solicited both through bilateral and multilateral arrangements. It also coordinates with apex industry associations, such as FICCI, CII and ASSOCHAM, in their activities relating to promotion of industrial cooperation, both through bilateral and multilateral initiatives intended to stimulate inflow of foreign direct investment into India. The Government has also set up 'Invest India', a joint venture company between the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion and FICCI, as a not-for-profit, single window facilitator, for prospective overseas investors and to act as a structured mechanism to attract investment focused on MSME Sector.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A high level group has been constituted by the Government under the Minister of Consumer Affairs to examine various issues concerning internal trade and to make recommendation for internal trade reforms. The major safeguard for MSMEs in the extant FDI policy on multi brand retail trading is that at least 30% of the value of procurement of manufactured/ processed products purchased by the multi brand retailer is to be sourced from Indian small industries. In a recent review, the government has included medium enterprises and farmers/agri cooperatives under the sourcing requirement. This safeguard is expected to strengthen the MSMEs and facilitate their integration in the value chain.

#### **Pak-India Young Entrepreneurs Bilateral Summit, Islamabad**

625. SHRI SALIM ANSARI:

SHRI JAIPRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a group of 25 Indian entrepreneurs have recently gone to Pakistan to explore business and investment opportunities under Pak-India Young Entrepreneurs Bilateral Summit held in Islamabad in October, 2013;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent the Indian delegation to Pakistan have yielded results in various fields of business deals between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): (a) and (b) A youth delegation of twenty-two (22) Indian members visited Lahore and Islamabad from 27th to 30th October, 2013 under the Commonwealth Asia Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs (CAAYE) India-Pakistan Bilateral Mission. The visit was organized by Young Entrepreneurs Forum (YEF) of the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Confederation of Indian Industry's Young Indians in association with 'Aman Ki Asha'.

(c) The visit was in the nature of creating conducive environment for trade through people to people contact and exploring business opportunities between India and Pakistan.

**Priority for setting up of private industrial parks**

626. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to give priority to setting up of private industrial parks to pursue industrial infrastructural development as well as to mitigate the problem of unemployment in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is contemplating to enhance the quantum of investment of its Gross Domestic Product in research and development activities for sustaining high growth in future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): (a) Under schemes of various manufacturing Ministries/Departments, assistance is provided as per scheme parameters for setting up of sector-oriented industrial parks. Among the schemes administered by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, under the scheme of Mega Leather Cluster, Government of India provides graded assistance based on size (area in acres) limited to a certain fixed percentage of the project cost as grant in aid for all components of the project, except the cost of the land, subject to a maximum ceiling of Rs. 125 crore per cluster. Under the Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) as recast in 2009, central assistance up to 75% of the project cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 60 crore to each project was being provided. According to the Modified Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (MIIUS) notified on 18.07.2013, central grant up to 50% of the project cost with a ceiling of Rs.50 crore with minimum State Implementing Agency's