

emphasis on irrigation and long-term credit; (iv) impetus to rural roads; (v) fillip to industry and infrastructure, *inter-alia*, via incentives *viz.* extension of the ten-year tax holiday to undertakings that begin generation, distribution and transmission of power by 31.03.2017; (vi) measures to augment low cost long-term foreign borrowings by Indian companies; (vii) proposal for promotion of Foreign Direct Investment in selected sectors; (viii) reduction in excise duty on specified food processing and packaging machinery, etc. along with proposed rationalization of duties relating to different types of coal, scrap and diamond items; (ix) scheme for development of new airports in tier I and tier II cities; (x) measures to boost savings; and (xi) emphasis on development of smart cities.

Budgetary allocation for NSD, Bangalore

2828. SHRIMATI B. JAYASHREE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that budgetary allocation has been made in this year's budget for opening new IIT and IIM;

(b) what are the reasons for not providing any budgetary grant to the National School of Drama (NSD) Bangalore chapter; and

(c) whether Government is considering any proposal to earmark 50 crores for starting NSD Bangalore chapter in the non-planned expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal for starting NSD, Bangalore. Moreover, NSD Delhi caters to the requirements of other regions of the country.

Beneficiaries of soft loan

2829. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he would include Fishermen, Weavers, Dairy Farmers and Women Self Help Group (WSHG) within the group of beneficiaries of the soft loan available for the agricultural farmers; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) As per Interest Subvention Scheme of the Government, the short-term crop loans upto ₹ 3 lakh are available to