

**Development of Dedicated Freight Corridor in Gujarat**

765. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to develop Industrial Corridor along the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor in the State of Gujarat in the context of industrial, export and Special Economic Zones (SEZs) vital on revenue aspects in the national interest, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Ministry has considered inclusion of Patan, Banaskantha, Mehsana and Saurashtra-Kutch region to link-up in DFC, and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Yes, the State of Gujarat is a part of proposed Industrial Corridor along the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC).

(b) The proposed alignment of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC) has junction arrangements at Palanpur, Mehsana and Sanand for interchange of traffic with Indian Railways. Traffic from Patan, Banaskantha district and Saurashtra - Kutch regions can access WDFC at these junction points as per operational convenience.

**Sea food exports to US**

766. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the status of sea-food exports from the country during the last three years;

(b) whether the United States is the major destination for such exports;

(c) whether the United States has put certain conditions on sea-food imports from India, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government subsidizes such exports; and

(e) the action plan to boost such exports to improve the economy of the people living in the coastal regions of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) During the financial year 2013-14, exports of sea-food products reached an all-time high of US \$ 5007.70 million. The quantity and value of exports of sea-food products during the last three years is as under:

*India's export of sea-food products (Data source: MPEDA)*

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	(%growth)
Quantity in MT	862021	928215	983756	5.98
Value in ₹ Crore	16597.23	18856.26	30213.26	60.23
Value in US\$ million	3508.45	3511.67	5007.70	42.6

(b) United States is one of the major destinations for marine exports from India. During 2013-14, in terms of value in US\$, 25.68% of India's total sea-food exports, were to the US.

(c) The US Department of Commerce (USDoC) had initiated Anti-Dumping Duty (ADD) on shrimp imports from India since 2004. In March 2014, USDoC announced the preliminary result of administrative review of Antidumping Duty for the year 2012-2013. The review led to a specific average rate of Antidumping Duty at 2.49%. In Dec. 2012, a legal petition was filed for imposing a Countervailing Duty, by Coalition Of Gulf Shrimp Industries (COGSI) against 7 countries including India against shrimp exports to USA. The United State Trade Commission (USITC) determined that such exports to US were neither materially injuring nor threatened to cause material injury to the US Industry. In September 2013 as a result of USITC's negative determination, no Countervailing Duty, on imports from India and the other 6 countries, has been imposed on shrimp exports to US. MPEDA had made consistent efforts with US, DoC which led to negative CVD determination.

(d) The Government of India is implementing various Schemes to promote Indian sea-food exports to make them competitive. These include assistance for Culture fisheries, processing infrastructure & value addition, Research & Development, Market Promotion, Capture fisheries and Quality control etc.

(e) The Government of India is implementing various schemes to improve the economy of the people living in the coastal regions of the country *viz.* Promotion of fishing of tuna and other under exploited resources, financial assistance for the construction of new tuna long liners, assistance to fishermen for better preservation of catch and demonstration of technology transfer from lab to land etc.

**EU ban on import of fruits and vegetables from India**

767. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that European Union has put a ban on import of some Indian fruits and vegetables;