

Study on effect of anti-tobacco laws on farmers

†1529. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any technical study has been undertaken by the Tobacco Board regarding the effect of anti-tobacco laws on the farmers;
- (b) if so, the details and the conclusions thereof;
- (c) the follow-up action taken by Government on this; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government including policy formulation to save the farmers from anti-tobacco laws and exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The increasing Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco exports from India indicates that there is no significant effect on FCV tobacco growers. However, India is a signatory to WHO'S Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) whereby there is an obligation to implement the provisions of FCTC in India to reduce the use of tobacco. The Government is responsible for promotion of appropriate economically viable alternatives for tobacco growers, workers, whose livelihoods are seriously affected as a consequence of tobacco control programmes.

Promotion of services sector exports

1530. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

SHRI GARIKAPATI MOHAN RAO:

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

- (a) whether Government has laid down any specific policy for the promotion of the services sector exports including outsourcing of information technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the impact of the efforts being made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) Government of India has taken a number of measures to boost export of services. The Foreign Trade

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Policy (FTP) 2009-14 of Government of India aims at accelerating the growth of export of services so as to create a powerful and unique 'Served from India' (SFIS) brand. As per para 3.12 of the Foreign Trade Policy (2009-14), which is available on the website of Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) at www.dgft.gov.in, incentive is available to providers of specified services in the form of duty credit scrip equivalent to 10% of free foreign exchange earned. With effect from 18.04.2013, the entitlement is on the basis of the net foreign exchange earned.

In addition, financial assistance is provided by Department of Commerce to Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC), Telecom Exports Promotion Council (TEPC) and Electronics & Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC EPC) under Market Access Initiative (MAI) and Market Development Assistance (MDA) schemes for promotion of exports. In order to move further in this direction, Services Conclave was organized by Department of Commerce in November, 2013 to discuss issues and bottlenecks hindering export of services from India. Government has decided to make this event an annual feature.

(c) Year-wise figures of incentives in the form of duty credit scrip granted during last 3 years, and exports of services are as under:

| Year | Incentives (₹ in crores) | Exports (in US\$ million) |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2011-12 | 1243.40 | 142,325 |
| 2012-13 | 2004.00 | 145,678 |
| 2013-14 (preliminary estimates) | 1431.00 | 151,475 |

Source : RBI

Steps taken to stimulate inflow of FDI

1531. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

SHRI GARIKAPATI MOHAN RAO:

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

(a) the role played by Government in investment promotion particularly Foreign Direct Investment (FDI); and

(b) the efforts being made, both through bilateral and multilateral initiatives, to stimulate inflow of FDI into the country?