

“Products not to contain any substance which may be injurious to health; Tobacco and nicotine shall not be used as ingredients in any food products.”

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Department of Commerce.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### **Enhancing growth of industrial output**

1884. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the concrete measures taken by Government to enhance the growth of industrial output as measured by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) during the last six months;

(b) what has been the outcome of these measures; and

(c) the additional measures Government proposes to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (c) Industrial growth measured in terms of Index of Industrial Production (IIP) during the first six months (April-September) of 2014-15 has improved to 2.8% as compared to 0.5 % recorded during the corresponding period of the previous year.

The Government is continuously taking measures to boost growth of industrial production in the country. For ease of doing business, the Government is simplifying and rationalizing the processes and the procedures for boosting investor sentiment. Some of the recent initiatives towards this end include pruning the list of industries that can be considered as defence industries requiring industrial license, two extensions of two years each in the initial validity of three years of the industrial license permitted up to seven years, removal of stipulation of annual capacity in the industrial license, and deregulating the annual capacity for defence items for Industrial License. Further, the recent amendments in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy include allowing FDI in Defence up to 49%, FDI in Railway infrastructure up to 100% and easing sectoral norms of FDI for Construction. The Union Budget 2014-15 had also announced a number of administrative and fiscal measures to revive the industrial growth in the country, which include expediting implementation of the e Biz Mission mode Project under the National e-Governance Plan and setting up of

a National Industrial Corridor Development Authority for coordinating and overseeing progress of the various industrial corridors that have been conceptualised. Further, recently, the Government has launched a “Make in India” programme with 25 thrust sectors.

### Functioning SEZs

1885. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) how many Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are there in the country at present;
- (b) whether all of them function at present and whether they satisfy all the norms;
- (c) the number of people employed by them;
- (d) the contribution of these SEZs to the National GDP in the most recent year for which data are available; and
- (e) the total tax revenue from them during that year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) In addition to Seven Central Government Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and 11 State/Private Sector SEZs set-up prior to the enactment of the SEZ Act, 2005, approval has been accorded to 524 proposals out of which 352 SEZs have been notified. Presently, a total of 196 SEZs are exporting.

(c) As on 30th September, 2014, out of the total employment provided to 13,50,071 persons in SEZs as a whole, 12,15,367 persons is incremental employment generated after February, 2006 when the SEZ Act has come into force. This is apart from millions of man days of employment generated by the developers for infrastructure activities.

(d) and (e) The total exports from SEZs as on 30th September, 2014 *i.e.* in the first two quarter of the current financial year 2014-15 has been to the tune of ₹2,34,821 crore approximately. The total investment in SEZs till 30th September, 2014 is ₹3,80,284 crore. The contribution of SEZs exports in the total exports of the country is 23.71%. Taxes including direct taxes, indirect taxes and State level taxes are collected as per the respective Acts and Rules.