

have expressed their intention to open business or invest in India. In the Joint Working Group meeting, the issues of Green ICT, ICT for Disaster Management, Cyber Security and leveraging of National ID for Social and Economic benefits, cooperation in the areas of Telecom Standards were discussed.

(c) and (d) A delegation led by Commissioner of Transport, Government of Gujarat including 13 members from Government and Industry, visited Japan during September 8-12, 2014.

The main objective of this delegation was to promote and invite participation for Vibrant Gujarat Global 2015 Summit to be held during January 11-13, 2015 at Gandhinagar. The delegation aimed to draw the attention of the investors in Japan towards the potential investment opportunities offered by the State of Gujarat in various sectors. The delegation included representatives from various industry sectors of Gujarat, such as Infrastructure, Finance, Pharmaceuticals, Automotive, FMCG, petrochemicals and Chemicals. The delegation visited the manufacturing facilities and corporate headquarters of some of the largest companies based out of Japan such as Suzuki Motor Corporation, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ etc. and had one-to-one meetings with some of the leading organizations such as Mizuho Bank, Teijin Inc., Terra Motors, Matsuda and Partners and many others.

(e) Keeping in view the Tokyo Declaration of 1st September, 2014 and Special Strategic and Global Partnership with Japan, the Government is determined to improve the business environment in India and further deepen bilateral economic and financial cooperation.

Rate of industrial growth

175. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of industrial growth in the country during last five years;

(b) whether many industrial units have been closed down due to impact of global and domestic recession;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government there to along with the details of such closures during the last four years and the current year;

(d) the type of industries which are most affected by recession;

(e) whether Government is considering any bail-out package for such industries; and

(f) the details of short term and long term strategies being planned to increase investment in industrial sector and enhance job opportunities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) The industrial performance measured in terms of Index of Industrial Production (IIP) reflects movements in the monthly production of manufacturing, mining and electricity over base of 2004-05, which is released by Central Statistics Office (CSO) every month. As per IIP, the industrial growth in the country was 5.3% in 2009-10, 8.2% in 2010-11, 2.9% in 2011-12, 1.1% in 2012-13 and (-) 0.1% in 2013-14. IIP has thereafter recorded a positive growth of 2.1% (Provisional) during April-December in the current year.

(b) The details of industries closed down are not centrally maintained.

(c) to (e) In view of (b) above, do not arise.

(f) Several initiatives have been taken recently to give the necessary thrust for attracting investment in the industrial sector which enhances job opportunities, through policy amendments, procedural simplifications as well as promotional measures. These 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. Certain instances of inverted duty structure affecting domestic industry have been addressed. The recent amendments in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy include allowing FDI in Defence up to 49% and FDI in Railway infrastructure up to 100%, easing the norms for FDI in construction and exempting FDI in medical devices from sectoral restrictions of pharmaceuticals.

Improvement in 'Ease of Doing Business' in India through simplification and rationalization of the existing rules and use of information technology to make governance more efficient and effective has been taken up. Integration of 14 Central Services through the e-Biz Platform has been already completed. The Government has launched a "Make in India" initiative with 25 thrust sectors to provide a major push to manufacturing in India. Information on the thrust sectors has been put up on Make in India's web portal (<http://www.makeinindia.com>) along with details of FDI Policy, National Manufacturing Policy, Intellectual Property Rights and the envisaged National Industrial Corridors including the Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor. An Investor Facilitation Cell, with back end support up to the State level has also been created in 'Invest India' to assist, guide, hand-hold and facilitate investors during the various phases of the business life cycle.