

(b) if so, whether, in view of Chhattisgarh being situated away from the ports and more expenditure involved in transportation, the Central Government would help the State by giving grants for development of inland transport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) No State, including Chhattisgarh, requires any permission for inland transport of import/export cargo. Further, the states are not differentiated on the basis of coastal or inland location for the purpose of import/export as import/ export can also take place directly from Inland Container Station (ICD) [e.g. ICD Raipur in Chhattisgarh] or Container Freight Station (CFS) located in landlocked states like Chhattisgarh.

(b) Government does not have a transport subsidy scheme for export/import for the state of Chhattisgarh.

Talks with China over India's demand in three key sectors

1866. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

(a) whether Government expressed concerns that administrative agencies in China have not responded to India's demand in three key sectors, viz. pharmaceutical, agriculture including bovine meat and IT services where the country has demonstrative strength;

(b) if so, whether Government has held any talks with the Chinese Government;

(c) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the next course of action of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) India has consistently sought greater market access for India's exports to China, especially in sectors such as pharmaceuticals, agriculture including bovine meat, IT services, etc. India has also sought simplification and greater transparency in China's procedures relating to registration, inspection and approvals relating to imports from India.

(b) to (d) The issue of market access to Indian products in IT/ITES, pharmaceuticals and agricultural products including bovine meat has been discussed with China at various fora including at the highest levels of leadership of the two countries. The Joint Statement on Building Closer Developmental Partnership between India and China

issued during the visit of Chinese President to India in September, 2014 highlighted India's demand that the two sides take positive steps towards rebalancing bilateral trade and addressing the existing structural imbalance in trade that has a bearing on its sustainability and that such measures will include cooperation on pharma including registration, speedier phytosanitary negotiations on agro-products for two-way trade, stronger links between Indian IT companies and Chinese enterprises, and increasing services trade in tourism, films, healthcare, IT and logistics. The two sides have also signed the Five-Year Development Program for Economic and Trade Cooperation that lays out a roadmap for comprehensively deepening and balancing bilateral economic engagement with an emphasis on enhancing India's exports in these products to China. These issues were also flagged at the level of Commerce Ministers of two countries during the India-China 10th Joint Economic Group (JEG) meeting held in September, 2014 in Beijing.

Introducing standards to restrict import of Chinese items

1867. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO:

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

(a) whether Government has warned China that it may introduce standards for variety of products and subsequently restrict Chinese imports of 'non-essential items' if they fell short of Indian quality norms, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the items proposed to be listed in non-essential category;

(c) whether any reaction has been received from the Chinese side, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure the quality and standards of the imported items from China and other countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (c) All goods imported into India are subject to domestic laws, rules, orders, regulations, technical specifications, environment and safety norms, that are notified from time to time. There is no proposal at present to restrict imports of products, that otherwise satisfy the aforesaid conditions, including meeting the prescribed technical standards.

(d) Government has brought 92 products under compulsory Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification, by issuing quality control orders under Section 14 of the BIS Act, 1986. The use of BIS Standard Mark has been made mandatory on such