

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

products, whether manufactured in the country or imported. Further, 15 electronic and IT products are covered under Compulsory Registration Scheme of BIS, where the use of Self Declaration of Conformity statement on these products is mandatory. 15 additional products have been brought under this scheme *w.e.f.* 7th May, 2015.

#### **Diversion of land by SEZ developers**

1868. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to to Unstarred Question 2672 given in the Rajya Sabha on 17th December, 2014 and to state:

(a) whether Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and diversion of land by SEZ developers as alleged by CAG in its report pertaining to the Ministry are concern of Central Government or not;

(b) if SEZs and diversion of land by SEZ developers are concern of Central Government, whether Government would initiate probe into the alleged irregularities by SEZs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (c) As per Entry No. 18 of the State List in the 7th schedule of the Constitution of India, land is a State subject. Land for SEZs is provided by the concerned State Governments. The Board of Approval (BoA) on SEZs only considers those proposals which have been duly recommended by the State Governments. Since land is a State subject, State Government are free to frame any law/rule on the subject. In order to prevent any possible misuse of de-notified parcels of land by the developers, Department of Commerce has issued guidelines on 13.09.2013 which are as under :—

- (i) All such proposals must have an unambiguous 'No Objection Certificate' from State Government concerned.
- (ii) State Governments may also ensure that such de-notified parcels would be utilized towards creation of infrastructure which would sub-serve the objective of the SEZ as originally envisaged.
- (iii) Such land parcels after de-notification will conform to land use guidelines/ master plans of the respective State Governments.

Board of Approval considers request of Developers for de-notification of SEZs