

(c) The names of the ports involved in the import of Natural Rubber during 2014-15 with the volume imported are as under :—

Port-wise import NR during 2014-15 (provisional)

(Tonnes)

Cochin	35507
Hyderabad	3468
Delhi	1551
Mundra	48886
Pune	3304
Tuticorin	4708
Kolkata	9058
Mumbai	77586
Ludhiana	14878
Chennai	172295
Baroda	23360
Others	20004

Instilling confidence in the industries

1888. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any measures have been taken by the Ministry to instil confidence in the industries considering the slow pace of economic growth in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Ministry has studied the impact of recent economic slowdown that has been reported and prevalent in other parts of the world; and

(d) 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) and (b) Yes Sir. The Ministry has taken a number of steps to revive the growth in the industrial sector, which comprises policy amendments, procedural simplifications as well as promotional measures. For creation of conducive business environment, the Ministry is constantly simplifying and rationalizing the processes and procedures for boosting investor sentiment, simplifying the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy and correcting the inverted duty structure. Some of the recent initiatives towards this end include

pruning the list of industries that can be considered as defence industries requiring industrial license, permissible extensions in the validity of industrial license up to seven years, treating partial commencement of production as commencement of production of all the items included in the license etc. The recent amendments in 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 and raising permissible FDI in insurance and pension from 26% to 49%.

Further, *inter alia*, the Government has launched the e-biz Mission Mode Project under the National e-Governance Plan, and 14 Central Services spanning a number of Ministries and Departments are now integrated in the e-Biz portal. Besides, the Government is implementing the Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) project. In addition, the Government has conceptualized Amritsar Kolkata Industrial Corridor, Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor, Bengaluru Mumbai Economic Corridor and the Vizag-Chennai Industrial Corridor (as the first phase of an East Coast Economic Corridor), and setting up a National Industrial Corridor Development Authority for coordinating and overseeing progress of the various industrial corridors.

The Government has launched a "Make in India" programme under which 25 thrust sectors have been identified. Information on these 25 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 (DMIC). An Investor Facilitation Cell in 'Invest India' has been created to assist, guide and handhold investors during the various phases of business life cycle under the Make in India initiative with provision of back end support up to the State level.

(c) and (d) The Government is aware of various analysis/surveys and reports prepared by domestic and international organisations on the impact of the recent global economic slowdown which provide inputs for policy interventions. Illustrative list of such analysis/surveys/reports are by the Reserve Bank of India, Industry Associations like the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), International Monetary Fund (IMF), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the World Bank.

Export of spices

1889. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to satate :

(a) the quantum-wise and item-wise details of the total spices exported during the last five years;