Strategy to double exports

163. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:
SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

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

(a) whether Government has unveiled a new strategy to double the country's exports in next few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the item-wise and country-wise details of steps being taken in this context?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) As per Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20 (*www.commerce.gov.in*), Government aims to increase India's merchandise and services exports to approximately US$ 900 billion by 2019-20 from the level of US$ 466 billion during 2013-14.

(b) and (c) In the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20, a number of measures have been initiated which include a stable and sustainable policy environment, linking rules, procedures and support for exports and imports with other initiatives such as Make in India, Digital India and Skills India.

The Policy focuses on export promotion of high value products with a strong domestic manufacturing base, including engineering goods, electronics, drugs and pharmaceuticals. In light of India's strengths and their contribution to employment generation, leather, textiles, gems and jewellery and the sectors based on natural resources, which include agriculture, have also been given special attention.

As per FTP 2015-20, India's future bilateral/regional trade engagements will be negotiated with regions and countries that are promising markets and major suppliers of critical inputs and have complementarities with the Indian economy.

Effect on unemployment after entry of multinational companies

†164. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been conducted or is proposed to be conducted so far to ascertain the effect on unemployment after the entry of multinational companies;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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

(c) the steps taken by Government to create more jobs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) To assess the effect of economic slowdown on employment in India since January, 2009, Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment, has been conducting Quarterly Quick Employment surveys in the selected labour-intensive and export-oriented sectors namely textiles including apparels, metals, gems and jewellery, automobiles, transport, IT/BPO, leather and handloom/powerloom. So far nineteen such surveys have been conducted by Labour Bureau and reports released. According to the survey results, overall estimated employment in all selected sectors has experienced a net addition of 37.46 lakh jobs starting from the first survey (October, 2008 to December, 2014) till the 24th Survey (October, 2014 to December, 2014).

Government has taken various steps for generating employment in the country like encouraging private sector of economy, fast tracking various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) run by Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) scheme run by Ministry of Rural Development and National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) run by Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation.

For skilling to provide employment, a new Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has been established to coordinate the skill activities across Ministries. In order to improve the employability of youth, around 20 Ministries run skill development schemes across 70 sectors. According to the data compiled by National Skill Development Agency (NSDA), about 51.50 lakh persons were given skill development training in the year 2014-15 (upto Feb., 2015) under these schemes.

FDI in e-commerce retail

165. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the definition of e-commerce retail according to the Ministry;

(b) whether Government plans to introduce Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in e-commerce retail;