

on Export Competition, which covers agricultural export subsidies, among other issues. Other Ministerial Decisions on public stockholding for food security purposes, the SSM and on Cotton reaffirm a commitment to continue work on these issues.

Approval to big projects

652. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and details of big projects/proposals approved by the Ministry and started since last two years;
- (b) the details of employment generated during the last two years in various parts of the country; and
- (c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken for generating more employment opportunities to the youth in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) 133 licences for manufacturing various items were issued during the last two years under defence and chemical sectors. The employment expected to be generated in these projects is 35,169 mandays.

(c) The Government of India has undertaken a number of initiatives to improve Ease of Doing Business to promote business activity. An Action Plan has been prepared across sectors under 'Make in India' initiative to promote these sectors. Further, a startup Action Plan has been released by the Government to create a conducive environment for startups in India. These efforts will promote employment generation in the country.

Import of healthcare related devices

653. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India imports over 75 per cent of its healthcare related device requirements, especially in cardiovascular surgery;
- (b) if so, the details of reasons for this dependency on import of health related devices especially those of bioprosthetic value;
- (c) the steps taken to reduce country's dependency on imports in this regard; and