

(b) Apprehensions of all stakeholders are being given due consideration in the programme. Government is coordinating with apex industry associations, such as FICCI, CII and ASSOCHAM in their activities relating to promotion of industrial cooperation, both through bilateral and multilateral initiatives intended to stimulate inflow of foreign direct investment in India, besides participating in the Joint Business Councils and other interactive sessions organized by them. Government has set up 'invest India', a joint-venture company between the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion and FICCI, as a not-for-profit, a single window facilitator, for prospective overseas investors, to act as a structured mechanism for attracting investment. The Government of India, in partnership with various State Government and Business Associations, is also making concerted efforts to make regulations conducive for business. It, therefore, recognizes the active role required to be played by it in investment promotion.

(c) Major initiatives have been taken by Government for improving the 'Ease of Doing Business' in India through simplification and rationalization of existing rules and the introduction of information technology to make governance more efficient and effective. Ministries and State Governments have been advised to simplify and rationalize the regulatory environment through business process reengineering and use of information technology. Other measures include integration of 20 services on e-biz portal to function as single window portal for obtaining Government clearances, integration of the process of incorporation of the company and application for Director's Identification Number (DIN), removal of requirements of minimum paid-up capital and common seal of companies, simplification of the procedure for Industrial License (IL) and Industrial Entrepreneur's Memorandum (IEM), excluding a number of parts/components from the purview of Industrial Licensing and issue of security manual for license defence industry to obviate the requirement of affidavit from applicant.

Schemes for promotion of agriculture exports

2083. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per WTO trade statistics, India is the 7th largest exporter of agriculture goods;

(b) if so, the efforts being made to make India one of the top three agriculture exporting countries of the world by 2020;

(c) whether any blueprint for this purpose has been prepared by the Ministry, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the year-wise and scheme-wise details of schemes being implemented to promote agriculture exports and performance of each scheme in the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) As per International Trade Statistics 2015 published by WTO India ranks as 7th largest exporter of agricultural products, with value of export at USD 43 billion during 2014.

(b) The export of agricultural products depends on various factors including availability of surplus over and above the requirement of buffer stock including strategic reserve, if any, concerns of food security, diplomatic/humanitarian considerations, international demand and supply situation, quality standards in the importing countries, varieties traded and price competitiveness, need to balance between remunerative prices to the growers and availability of agricultural products to common man at affordable prices.

With high domestic consumption base and limited arable land, India is not likely to have adequate export surplus to become one of the top three agriculture export countries of the world by 2020.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), an autonomous organization under the administrative control of Department of Commerce, provides financial assistance to the exporters of agricultural products under various components of the "Agriculture Export Promotion Plan Scheme".

The year-wise details of expenditure under various component of the above scheme during the past three years and the current year, are as under:

(₹ in crores)

Name of the Schemes	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (till 10.03.2016)	
	Funds allocated	Actual Expenditure	Funds allocated	Actual Expenditure	Funds allocated	Actual Expenditure	Funds allocated	Actual Expenditure
Development of Infrastructure	43.35	43.35	37.91	37.91	45.00	45.00	42.00	42.00
Market Development	26.98	26.98	17.09	17.09	21.02	21.02	23.00	21.50
Quality Development	6.68	6.68	3.32	3.32	8.10	8.10	7.00	7.00
Transport Assistance	72.99	72.99	56.68	56.68	55.88	55.88	35.00	35.00
North East Area (NER)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.00	4.18
TOTAL	150.00	150.00	115.00	115.00	130.00	130.00	115.00	109.68

Source: APEDA

APEDA participates in 10-12 international trade fairs every year to promote the export of agro products from India. APEDA also works with the regulatory bodies in the importing countries to negotiate and achieve market access for Indian agro products. Exports of many of the agricultural products also qualify for rewards under the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS), Assistance for promoting agricultural exports is also provided under Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) and Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme of the Department of Commerce.

Notification of guidelines for power to SEZs

2084. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether Government recently notified guidelines for power generation, transmission, distribution in Special Economic Zones (SEZs), if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether fiscal incentives are provided for supplying uninterrupted power supply at stable frequency, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether operation and maintenance benefits were restored for uninterrupted power supply, including Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) and tax relief, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what concessions are provided to power generation companies in SEZs as compared to non-processing areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Government has recently issued the guidelines on generation, transmission and distribution of power in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in supersession of all previous guidelines issued by Department of Commerce. The said guidelines is available at www.sezindia.nic.in

(b) to (d) These guidelines, *inter-alia*, provides for fiscal benefits covered under Section 26 of the SEZs Act, 2005, including the benefits for initial setting up, maintenance and the duty free import of raw materials and consumables for generation of the power within the processing area in respect of IT/ITES SEZs, Research and Development (R&D) facilities, Fabless Semi-Conductor Industry, Electronic Manufacturing Services (EMS) and such other sectors as may be decided by the Central Government, having the requirement of uninterrupted quality power supply at stable frequency in the Zone.

Ministry of Finance has withdrawn the exemption from Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) to SEZ Developers and Units with effect from 1st April, 2012.