

Export incentives

*8. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to give export incentives such as cheap credit to large players in sectors like pharmaceuticals, chemicals and electronics;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that export situation is very bad and Government will have to provide some support because both value and quantity of exports have declined; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) The Government has introduced the Interest Equalisation Scheme on Pre and Post Shipment Rupee Export Credit with effect from 01.04.2015. The scheme is available to exports under 416 specified tariff lines at 4 digit ITC (HS) code, and exports made by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) across all ITC (HS) codes including pharmaceuticals, chemicals and electronics lines for such MSME exporters. The rate of interest equalisation is 3% per annum.

(c) and (d) As per the quick estimate of Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S) there is decline of 17.65% in US \$ terms and 12.10% in Rupee terms in exports during April 2015–January 2016 in comparison with April 2014–January 2015.

The Government has taken various measures to extend support to exporters which are indicated below:

- (i) The New Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) was announced on 1st April, 2015 with a focus on supporting both manufacturing and services exports and improving the 'Ease of Doing Business'. The FTP introduced two new schemes, namely, 'Merchandise Exports from India Scheme' (MEIS) for incentivising export of specified goods to specified markets and 'Service Exports from India Scheme' (SEIS) for promoting export of notified services from India, by consolidating earlier schemes.
- (ii) E-Commerce exports of handloom products, books/periodicals, leather footwear, toys and customized fashion garments through courier or foreign post offices

were also included for benefit under MEIS. In order to give a boost to exports from SEZs, benefits of both MEIS and SEIS were extended to units located in SEZs.

- (iii) In the light of the major challenges being faced by Indian exporters in the backdrop of the global economic slowdown, the envisaged revenue outgo under MEIS was increased from ₹ 18000 crore to ₹ 21000 crore in October 2015 with accompanying enhancement in benefits on certain products and inclusion of certain additional items.
- (iv) By way of trade facilitation and enhancing the ease of doing business Government reduced the number of mandatory documents required for exports and imports to three each, which is comparable with international benchmarks. The trade community can file applications online for various trade related schemes. Online payment of application fees through Credit/Debit Cards and electronic funds transfer from 53 Banks has been put in place.
- (v) Government has infused additional Corpus (Capital) to the tune of ₹ 375 crore into the National Export Insurance Account (NEIA), raising the corpus to over ₹ 2100 crore, and strengthen the capacity to augment Project exports from the country. The equity capital of ECGC Ltd. has also been raised by ₹ 50 crore to ₹ 1300 crore enabling higher underwriting capacity to support exporters to expand their business and support banks for adequate lending to exporters.
- (vi) Further, the Government continues to provide the facility of access to duty free raw materials and capital goods for exports through schemes like Advance Authorisation, Duty Free Import Authorisation (DFIA), Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) and drawback/refund of duties.

Expenses and earning of each Municipal Corporation of Delhi

*9. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Municipal Corporation of Delhi was divided into three Municipal Corporations by the previous Government;
- (b) if so, the corporation-wise expenses and earnings of each Municipal Corporation;
- (c) whether some of the above corporations are not in a position to pay salary to the staff timely including safai karamcharis; and