

(b) if so, what correctives are under consideration for the agreements in existence and whether the agreements now on the drawing board will have adequate built-in safeguards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) No, Sir. The bilateral and regional trade agreements are complementary to the 'Make in India' programme.

(b) Does not arise.

**Extension of interest subvention scheme for textile sector**

1151. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Export Organisations are demanding to extend the Interest Subvention Scheme for textile sector with retrospective effect from April, 2014;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a demand;

(c) why the Interest Subvention Scheme was not extended after March, 2014;

(d) the year-wise export of textiles in the last three years and the current year; and

(e) what are the reasons that country's exports were in the negative zone in the last six months and how the Ministry is planning to address this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) had requested extension of Interest Subvention Scheme beyond 31.03.2014 *vide* their letter dated 02.05.2014 addressed to Commerce Secretary which mentions the high cost of credit impacting competitiveness of exporters, as a reason for the request.

(c) On culmination of earlier Interest Subvention Scheme on 31.03.2014, the scheme was being reviewed and the matter related to continuing a scheme of this nature was under consideration, which was followed by introduction of Interest Equalisation Scheme w.e.f. 01.04.2015.

(d) Year-wise data on exports of the textile sector in the last three years, and the current year is as follows:

(Value in US \$ Million)

Principal Commodity	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (Apr- Feb)
Cotton Fabrics, Madeups etc.	4710.52	5118.64	5516.42	4812.46
Cotton Yarn	3532.29	4550.41	3937.41	3307.31
Manmade Yarn, Fabrics, Madeups	4536.00	5183.66	5275.03	4290.18
NATRL Silk Yarn, Fabrics, Madeup	155.35	142.94	124.97	78.69
Other Txtl Yarn, Fabric Mdup Artcl	325.31	376.05	399.59	305.16
RMG Cotton Incl accessories	8443.59	9106.74	9282.83	8277.11
RMG Manmade Fibres	2521.20	3148.96	3997.13	3788.64
RMG of Other Textile Matrl	1453.85	2190.77	2941.65	2911.50
RMG Silk	236.70	236.55	303.97	230.52
RMG Wool	293.38	307.48	307.75	250.54
Silk, Raw	0.53	0.04	0.11	0.22
Wollen Yarn, Fabrics, Madeupsetc	195.46	180.72	201.85	177.61
Wool, Raw	0.19	0.20	0.04	0.45
GRAND TOTAL	26404.36	30543.14	32288.73	28430.38

*Source:* DGCI&S

(e) Some of the key reasons for country's exports being in the negative zone in the last six months are;

- (i) Fall in global demand and fall in commodity prices impacting terms of trade for commodity exporters.
- (ii) Fall in the prices of petroleum crude resulting in consequent decline in prices as well as export realizations for petroleum products, which are major items of export for India.
- (iii) EU Countries that account for nearly 16% of India's export, are facing stagnation. China is also experiencing a slow down. The recovery in US has been moderate and uncertain in terms of sustainability.
- (iv) There is a general slowdown in the world GDP growth and hence in growth of World Trade. Some increase in trade barriers have also been reported.

The policy initiatives taken by Government to arrest falling exports and enhance merchandise exports are as below:-

- (i) The Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) was introduced in the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-20 on April 1, 2015. MEIS aims to incentivize export of merchandise which are produced/manufactured in India. At the time of introduction of MEIS on April 1, 2015, the scheme covered 4914 tariff lines at 8 digit level. Countries of the globe were grouped into 3 market categories (Country Group A, Country Group B and Country Group C) for grant of incentives under MEIS. Slight changes in lines covered etc. were made on 14.07.2015 and 15.7.2015. Thereafter on 29.10.2015, 110 new Tariff Lines at 8 digit level were added under the scheme. The rates/country coverage for 2228 lines at 8 digit level were enhanced. As on date, 5012 Tariff Lines at 8 digit level are eligible for rewards under MEIS. The annual resource allocation under MEIS was enhanced from ₹ 18000 crore to ₹ 21000 crore in October 2015.
- (ii) The Government has introduced the Interest Equalisation Scheme on Pre and Post Shipment Rupee Export Credit with effect from 1.4.2015. The scheme is available to all exports under 416 specified tariff lines [at ITC (HS) code of 4 digit] and exports made by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) across all ITC (HS) codes. The rate of interest equalisation is 3% per annum.
- (iii) In addition 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.

#### **Action against dumping in the country**

1152. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the cheap goods including vegetables, fruits, electronic goods, etc. being dumped in India especially cheap Chinese imports;

(b) if so, the action the Ministry has taken thus far to protect the interests of Indian producers; and

(c) what measures the Ministry is taking to speed up the process of taking action against dumping activities to prevent substantial damage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (c) Yes. The Designated