

Assistance to Bihar under MIIUS

†1947. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects in Bihar which are receiving assistance from the Central Government under the Modified Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (MIIUS);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the project-wise details of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) 'Modified Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (MIIUS)' was notified in July 2013 for taking up new projects in the 12th Five Year Plan Period. Despite repeated requests by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) under Ministry of Commerce and Industry, no proposal was received from Bihar. Hence, no project has been approved in Bihar and therefore, no project in the State is receiving Central Assistance under MIIUS.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Decline in exports of merchandise goods

1948. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for decline in exports of merchandise goods from India;

(b) whether there is any plan of action to boost merchandise exports of India;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government would exempt Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) on SEZs to make the Indian merchandise globally competitive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (c) As per Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics data, India's Merchandise Exports were US \$ 261.14 billion (Provisional) during April 2015-March 2016 compared to US \$ 310.34 billion during April 2014-March 2015 and US \$ 314.41 billion during April 2013-March 2014. The decline in exports of the country is consistent with the global economic and trade slowdown.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.