

(c) According to the OECD report, postal parcels are the most popular way of shipping counterfeit and pirated product. Between 2011 and 2013, an average of almost 62% of seizures worldwide concerned postal shipments.

(d) and (e) According to the Central Board of Excise and Customs, with regard to exports of fake and counterfeit goods, the Customs Department is following all the procedures and directions issued by the Government in this regard. Field formations are advised from time to time to maintain strict vigil and check/examine export consignments thoroughly in order to prevent such fake exports.

Also, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has informed that with a view to check export of counterfeit drugs, it has notified the procedure for implementation of the Track and Trace system for export of pharmaceutical and drug consignments on 1st April, 2015.

Interest subvention scheme to boost exports

1839. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided on some Interest Subvention Scheme in some select sectors of the economy to boost exports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of the measures taken by Government to enhance exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) The Government has introduced the Interest Equalization Scheme on Pre and Post Shipment Rupee Export Credit *w.e.f.* 01.04.2015 for 5 years. The scheme has been notified *vide* RBI circular No. 62 dated 04.12.2015. The scheme is available to all exports by manufacturers under 416 specified tariff lines [at ITC (HS) Codes at 4 digit level] and exports made by manufacturing Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises across all ITC (HS) Codes. The rate of interest equalisation is 3% per annum.

- (c) Government has taken suitable measures to promote exports, which include:
 - (i) **The Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS)** was introduced in the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-2020 with effect from April 1, 2015. MEIS aims to incentivize export of merchandise which is produced/ manufactured in India.
 - (ii) The Government has introduced the **Interest Equalisation Scheme on Pre & Post Shipment Rupee Export Credit** with effect from 1.4.2015. The scheme

is available to manufacturers for all exports under 416 specified tariff lines [at ITC (HS) Codes at 4 digit level] and to exports made by manufacturers in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises across all ITC (HS) Codes. The rate of interest equalisation is 3% per annum.

- (iii) **Duty Exemption/Remission Schemes** *viz* Advance Authorisation (AA), Duty Free Import Authorisation (DFIA) and Duty Drawback (DBK) Scheme enable duty free import of inputs for export production, including replenishment of input or duty remission. Schemes to promote exports of Gem and Jewellery include Advance Procurement / Replenishment of Precious Metals from Nominated Agencies, Replenishment Authorisation for Gems, Replenishment Authorisation for Consumables and Advance Authorisation for precious metals. Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme facilitates import of capital goods at zero duty for producing quality goods and services to enhance India's export competitiveness. Authorisation holder under EPCG is not required to maintain average Export Obligation in respect of export of goods from following sectors *viz.* Handicrafts, Handlooms, Cottage and Tiny sector, Agriculture, Aqua-culture (including Fisheries), Pisciculture, Animal husbandry, Floriculture and Horticulture, Poultry, Viticulture, Sericulture, Carpets, Coir, and Jute.
- (iv) **Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme** is an Export Promotion Scheme envisaged to act as a catalyst to promote India's exports on a sustained basis. The scheme provides assistance to Export Promotion Organizations/ Trade Promotion Organizations/National Level Institutions/ Research Institutions/Universities /Laboratories, Exporters etc., for enhancement of exports through accessing new markets or through increasing the share in the existing markets.
- (v) **Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme** is under operation through the Department of Commerce to assist exporters for export promotion activities abroad, assist Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) to undertake export promotion activities for their product(s) and commodities and assist approved organizations/ trade bodies in undertaking exclusive non-recurring innovative activities connected with export promotion efforts for their members.

New IPR Policy

1840. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has announced the new Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy recently, if so, the details thereof;