

Limited and M/s Essar Steel India Ltd. Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) has initiated an anti-dumping investigation on imports of Hot rolled flat products of alloy or non-alloy steel in coils of a width upto 2100mm and thickness upto 25 mm and Hot-rolled flat products of alloy or non-alloy steel not in coils (commonly known as sheets and plates) of a width upto 4950mm and thickness upto 150mm originating in or exported from China PR, Japan, Russia, Korea RP, Brazil and Indonesia on 11.4.2016.

In addition to the above, DGAD has also initiated anti-dumping investigation concerning Cold rolled/cold reduced flat steel products of iron or non-alloy steel, or other alloy steel, of all widths and thickness, not clad, plated or coated from China PR, Japan, Korea RP and Ukraine on 19.04.2016; Wire Rod of alloy or non-alloy Steel from China PR on 02.06.2016; and Colour coated/pre painted flat products of alloy and non-alloy steel from China PR and EU on 29.06.2016.

On *prima-facie* evidence submitted by domestic industry, the dumped imports have adversely affected the domestic industry on parameters like decline in sales, profits, output, market share, productivity etc. The investigation is under progress and the quantum of dumped imports/dumping margin in respect of these countries will be determined after examination of the submissions made by all the interested parties from these countries during the course of investigation and the findings will be issued accordingly.

#### **Allowing FDI from Pakistan**

1023. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has permitted Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from Pakistan in various sectors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto; and
- (c) the other measures taken/being taken by Government to improve the bilateral trade between India and Pakistan in the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The existing FDI Policy permits a citizen of Pakistan or any entity incorporated in Pakistan to make investments in India, under the Government route, in sectors/activities other than defence, space and atomic energy.

- (c) The steps taken to improve bilateral trade with Pakistan *inter-alia* include:

- (i) An Integrated Check Post (ICP) has been operationalized at Attari (Amritsar) to streamline the movement of trucks between India and Pakistan and significantly enhance the flow of trade through land route;
- (ii) Agreements on redressal of trade grievances, bilateral cooperation and mutual assistance in customs related matters were signed during the 7th round of India-Pakistan talks on Commercial and Economic Co-operation held in September 2012 at Islamabad;
- (iii) For strengthening business linkages between the two countries, Business Visas are being issued for a validity of up to 3 years with multiple entries to certain bonafide and prominent Pakistani businessmen

#### **Increase in exports**

†1024. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an increase in exports from the country has been registered;
- (b) if not, the status of exports from financial year 2012-13 to 2015-16; and
- (c) the details of efforts made by Government for increasing exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) The merchandise exports from the country have registered an increase of 1.27 per cent in Dollar terms (6.72 per cent in Rupee terms) in June 2016 compared to the same month of the previous year.

(c) The details of key efforts made by Government for increasing exports are as follows:

- (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'.
- (ii) 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. On 04.05.2016, the Government has extended the market coverage to all countries in respect of 2787 lines. Hence Landing Certificates shall not be required under MEIS *w.e.f* 04.05.2016.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.