Unstarred Questions

The Five Year Program recognizes and states "that trade deficit with China is a matter of high concern for India. Against this background and in the spirit of mutual benefit, India and China shall endeavour to strengthen cooperation and gradually achieve bilateral trade balance over the next 5 years. India and China shall further endeavour to increase bilateral trade in services particularly Information Technology (IT) and Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) in the next 5 years."

The Government has also taken various measures to extend support to exporters to increase exports to all countries including China, 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) 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.
- (iii) A new scheme called Special Advance Authorisation Scheme for export of Articles of Apparel and Clothing Accessories of Chapter 61 and 62 of ITC(HS) Classification of Export and Import has been introduced with effect from 1st September, 2016 wherein exporters are entitled to authorisation for duty free import of fabrics, including inter lining on pre-import basis and all industry rate of duty drawback for import of non-fabric inputs on the exports.
- (iv) By way of trade facilitation and enhancing the ease of doing business Government has reduced the number of mandatory documents required for exports and imports. The trade community can file applications online for various trade related schemes.

## Regulation of pulses' import

3686. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that, large scale contract defaults and forced renegotiations of prices for import of pulses by private players has sent negative signals about the country towards market and hurting image of trade and the country at large;

- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government for regulation and monitoring of pulses' trade in order to protect the country's image?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (c) No such matter regarding large scale contract defaults and forced renegotiation of prices for import of pulses by private players has come to the notice of the Government.

## Award to manufacturers under 'Make in India' scheme

3687. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the foreign companies which have approached the Central Government, clearance given to, pending cases, State/UT-wise and date-wise details thereof under the 'Make in India' programme;
- (b) whether it is a fact that some manufacturers have been awarded under the 'Make in India' scheme, the details of the awardees, with their area of expertise; and
  - (c) the guidelines of Government for manufacturers to be a part of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) No such information is maintained centrally at one place.

- (b) Question does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.
- (c) 'Make in India' is not a scheme but an initiative aimed at creating a conducive environment for investment, development of modern and efficient infrastructure, opening up new sectors for foreign investments and forging a partnership between Government and industry through a positive mindset.

## Fall in sales of Fast Moving Consumer Goods

3688. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sales of Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) has fallen in the months of November and December, 2016, if so, the details thereof,