

**India-Canada CEPA Talks**

482. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after the 10th round of the India-Canada Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) talks held in August, 2017 both sides are still looking for a breakthrough in long-pending negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA), if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has agreed to accept clauses like Ratchet and Most Favoured Nation (MFN) in services and investment, if so, the list of sectors India has agreed to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) The 10th Round of CEPA Negotiations were held in August, 2017 at New Delhi and discussions are progressing under various chapters. The modalities in goods limited to tariff lines have been agreed during this round.

(b) The modalities for negotiations in services are still under discussion and on clauses like ratchet, MFN the discussion is continuing.

**Dumping of Chinese steel**

483. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the steel industry in the country has been facing innumerable problems due to dumping of Chinese steel and downward trend of international steel markets;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures taken/being taken by Government to safeguard the indigenous steel industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) to (c) Indian Steel industry was facing a lot of challenges due to dumping of steel from China in the past. There was 75.5% increase in imports of total steel (Alloy + Non Alloy) in 2014-15. The domestic steel prices had a sharp downward trend during 2014-15, which continued into 2015-16. In view of above, since 2014-15, the Government took the following remedial measures to safeguard the indigenous steel industry:

- (i) In order to address the challenge of unfair trade, adequate trade measures such as anti dumping duties, safeguard duties and temporary introduction of Minimum Import Prices were taken.
- (ii) The Government notified the Quality Control Order which makes the use of BIS standards mandatory for all steel produced and imports.
- (iii) Introduction of a new policy namely Domestically Manufactured Iron and Steel Products in Government procurement which facilitates domestic value addition.

#### **Fall in growth of manufacturing sector**

484. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that growth of manufacturing sector has witnessed unprecedented decline;

(b) if so, the details of growth in manufacturing sector, including leather, textiles, steel, etc. during the last two years and the current year, year-wise;

(c) whether Government has assessed the impact of this decline on Indian industries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures Government has taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The performance of manufacturing sector as per the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) during last two years and the current year is given below;

#### *Annual Growth Rates (in per cent)*

2015-16	2016-17	2017-18* (April-October)
2.8	4.4	2.1

\*Provisional

Source: Central Statistics Office

Industry-wise (as per 2-digit level National Industrial Classification 2008) growth rate during the last two years and the current year as per IIP is given in the Statement (*See* below).