

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Exports have been key source of economic growth of the country by way of creation of employment opportunities in the country and contributing to the growth in Gross Domestic Product.

The Government announced a major relief package for exporters in October 2017 by extending the Advance Authorization (AA)/Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG)/100% EOU schemes to sourcing inputs etc. from abroad as well as domestic suppliers. Holders of AA / EPCG and EOUs would not have to pay Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST), Cess etc. on imports. Also, domestic supplies to holders of AA/EPCG and EOUs would be treated as deemed exports. During the mid-term review of Foreign Trade Policy in December, 2017, export incentives under Merchandise Exports from India (MEIS) have been increased by 2% across the board for labour intensive MSME sectors leading to additional annual incentive of ₹ 4,567 cr. This was in addition to already announced increase in MEIS incentives from 2% to 4% for Ready-made Garments and Made Ups in the labour intensive Textiles Sector with an additional annual incentive of ₹ 2,743 cr. For Leather and Footwear Articles, an additional benefit of ₹ 749 crore is part of the relief package. Further, incentives under Services Exports from India Scheme (SEIS) have also been increased by 2% leading to additional annual incentive of ₹ 1,140 cr.

(c) The data pertaining to contribution of exports to country's GDP during the last three years is as below:

*Exports and GDP at current prices*

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17*
GDP (in Rs Cr)	124,45,128	136,82,035	151,83,709
Exports (in Rs Cr)	28,63,541	27,28,643	29,11,700
% of Exports to GDP	23.0	19.9	19.2

\*Provisional Estimates

**Transfer of salt pan land in Mumbai to Maharashtra**

501. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is pending for transferring salt pan land in Mumbai Metropolitan Region to State Government of Maharashtra for construction of 'Affordable Housing' to achieve the objective of 'Housing for All by 2022'; and

(b) if so, Government's response thereto and by when it will transfer the land to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) A request was received from the State Government of Maharashtra in November, 2013 for transfer of Central Government salt pan land in Mumbai to the State Government for affordable housing. After consideration of the proposal, the Government of Maharashtra was requested to submit a detailed proposal on the lines of internal policy guidelines to consider transfer of surplus salt land. No such proposal has been received from the State Government.

#### **Import of mobile handsets**

502. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of mobile handsets imported during the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 along with the amount of foreign exchange spent thereon;

(b) the value of mobile handsets produced in the country during the last three years; and

(c) whether Government has taken any step to encourage multinational companies to set up manufacturing units in the country pursuant to the announcement made by Prime Minister in this regard and if so, the outcome thereof along with the details of such units set up so far in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) The details regarding mobile phone import are as under:—

#### *Mobile Handset Import*

Year	Volume (Million Units)	Value (in Million US \$)
2014-15	210	7948
2015-16	146	6059
2016-17	76	3788

Source: DGCIS

(b) The value of mobile handset production during the last 3 years is as under:—

#### *Mobile Handset Production*

Year	Value in ₹ crores
2014-15	18,900
2015-16	54,000
2016-17	90,000

Source: Indian Cellular Association