

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The Government consults stakeholders, including industry associations, in order to assess the requirements of domestic industries and accordingly develops India's negotiation strategy. As it is consistent with previous and established practice in ongoing negotiations, disclosure before finalization of the Agreement may adversely affect India's position in the negotiations.

### **Export of leather products**

4168. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has announced a package of ₹ 2,600 crore for the leather sector, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) the State/UT-wise details of export of leather sector related items during the last three years and till date; and

(c) the State/UT-wise details about the leather sector units, number of employees along with the details of the units which have been closed post-demonetisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Sir. Government has approved special package for employment generation in leather and footwear sector. The package involves implementation of Central Sector Scheme 'Indian Footwear, Leather and Accessories Development Programme (IFLADP)' with an approved expenditure of ₹ 2600 crore over the three financial years from 2017-18 to 2019-20. Details of the Indian Footwear, Leather and Accessories Development Programme are as under:

- (i) **Human Resource Development (HRD) sub-scheme:** HRD sub-scheme provides assistance for Placement Linked Skill Development training to unemployed persons @ ₹ 15,000 per person, for skill up-gradation training to employed workers @ ₹ 5,000 per employee and for training of trainers @ ₹ 2 lakh per person.
- (ii) **Integrated Development of Leather Sector (IDLS) sub-scheme:** IDLS sub-scheme incentivizes investment and manufacturing including job creation by providing backend investment grant/subsidy @ 30% of the cost of new Plant and Machinery to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and @ 20% of the cost of Plant and Machinery to other units for modernization/technology upgradation in existing units and also for setting up of new units.
- (iii) **Establishment of Institutional Facilities sub-scheme:** The sub-scheme provides assistance to Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI)

for upgradation of some of the existing campuses of FDDI into “Centres of Excellence” and establishing 3 new fully equipped skill centres alongside the upcoming Mega Leather Cluster.

(iv) **Mega Leather, Footwear and Accessories Cluster (MLFAC) sub-scheme:**

The MLFAC sub-scheme provides infrastructure support to the Leather, Footwear and Accessories Sector by establishment of Mega Leather, Footwear and Accessories Cluster. Graded assistance is provided upto 50% of the eligible project cost, excluding cost of land with Government assistance being limited to ₹ 125 crore.

(v) **Leather Technology, Innovation and Environmental Issues sub-scheme:**

Under this sub-scheme, assistance is provided for upgradation/installation of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) @ 70% of the project cost. The sub-scheme also provides for support to national level sectoral industry council/association and support for preparation of vision document for Leather Footwear and Accessories Sector.

(vi) **Promotion of Indian Brands in Leather, Footwear and Accessories Sector sub-scheme:**

Under this sub-scheme, eligible units approved for Brand Promotion are assisted. Government assistance is limited to 50% of total project cost subject to a limit of ₹ 3 crore for each brand, each year for 3 years.

(vii) **Additional Employment Incentive for Leather, Footwear and Accessories Sector sub-scheme:**

Under this scheme, employers' contribution of 3.67% to Employees' Provident Fund for all new employees in Leather, Footwear and Accessories sector are provided for enrolling in EPFO for first 3 years of their employment.

(b) State-wise export data is collected by Council for Leather Exports (CLE), from their member exporters after the end of the financial year. As reported by CLE the state-wise export of leather, leather products and footwear by their members, is as under:—

(Value ₹ in crore)

State	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Tamil Nadu	11861.00	11520.35	11436.12
Uttar Pradesh	10750.18	9924.49	9767.46
West Bengal	5286.58	5031.71	4703.11
Delhi	2945.18	2869.03	2399.24

State	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Haryana	1228.45	1169.49	1081.34
Maharashtra	1657.30	1547.11	710.9
Karnataka	576.00	605.1	548.15
Punjab	369.48	317.33	269.68
Gujarat	49.90	114.89	109.2
Rajasthan	31.57	178.41	52.47
Andhra Pradesh	28.63	49.85	22.15
Kerala	20.99	25.37	21.03
Puducherry	9.73	8.45	13.53
Goa	0	0	11.48
Telangana	11.35	0	11.43
Uttarakhand	3.70	1.9	1.93
Himachal Pradesh	17.50	18.18	0
Madhya Pradesh	1.34	1.1	1.3
Assam	0.73	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34850.49</b>	<b>33382.76</b>	<b>31160.52</b>

*Source:* CLE membership records

(c) Setting up of Industries is a State subject; details in this regard are not maintained by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP). Closure of units in the leather Sector post demonetization has not been reported to the Department by the industry stakeholders.

#### **Bracketing of india by the US for retaliatory trade tariff**

4169. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US has bracketed India, for retaliatory trade tariff if India does not ease up on taxing American imports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken up with the US Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) While US keep raising the