

Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme and 100% Export Oriented Unit Scheme for sourcing inputs from abroad apart from Customs Duty. The 26th meeting of the GST Council held on 10th March 2018 has further extended these benefits till 01.10.2018.

(c) and (d) No Sir. No export subsidy is provided to the exporters. However, the applications for claims under export promotion schemes notified in the Foreign Trade Policy are disposed off in a time bound manner. A total of 4,27,557 applications under Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) and 3305 applications under Service Exports from India Scheme (SEIS) have been received in the period 01.04.2015 to 22.3.2018, out of which only 8564 of MEIS and 601 of SEIS applications are pending as on date, majority of which are due to deficiencies in the applications that have been communicated to the exporter.

Holding of mini Ministerial meeting of WTO members

3694. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is considering to hold a mini-Ministerial meeting of about 40 World Trade Organisation members to discuss ways to increase global trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the idea of the meeting is to deliberate on ways to create bigger markets, rather than finding out grounds on contentious issues; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) India hosted an Informal WTO Ministerial Meeting on 19-20 March, 2018 in New Delhi. The meeting, which was attended by more than fifty WTO member countries, was organised with the objective of facilitating a free and frank exchange of views on various issues related to the World Trade Organization (WTO).

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The meeting was held with a view to providing an opportunity to deliberate on issues concerning the WTO. During the meeting, it was recognized by almost all the participants that it is the collective responsibility of all WTO member countries to address the challenges facing the system and put it back on a steady and meaningful way forward.