

wafer are exempted from Basic Customs Duty (BCD) *vide* S.No.422 of Notification No.50/2017-Customs dated 30.06.2017, as amended from time to time.

- (ii) Investment linked deduction under Section 35AD of the Income-tax Act has been extended to semiconductor wafer fab manufacturing unit.
- (iii) Deduction of expenditure on research and development as admissible under Section 35(2AB) of the Income-tax Act.

#### **Border conflict with China**

2092. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether border conflict with China has affected trade balance in any way with China;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (c) India and China have each appointed a Special Representative (SR) to explore the framework for a boundary settlement from the political perspective of the overall bilateral relationship. There have been twenty one meetings of SRs so far with the last meeting held in Chengdu on 24 November 2018. The two sides have agreed to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution to the boundary question through dialogue and negotiations.

India's trade relations with China have expanded considerably - from a mere US\$ 3 billion in the year 2000 to more than US\$ 95 billion in 2018. While India's exports to China have grown, imports from China have grown much faster. Widening trade deficit for India with China is matter of concern. The Government has taken up the matter, including at the highest level, to raise these concerns and stress the need for balancing the trade. A Joint Economic Group led by the Commerce Ministers of the two countries is seeking to address this issue. The need for greater market access in China in areas where India has globally recognized strengths, such as pharmaceuticals, IT and IT enabled services, agricultural products etc. has been conveyed to the Chinese side.

At the Wuhan Informal Summit in April 2018, the two leaders agreed to push

forward bilateral trade and investment in a balanced and sustainable manner by taking advantage of complementarities between their two economies.

**Special laws against absconding NRI husbands**

2093. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some women organisations want special trans-national laws that could make extradition of absconding NRI husbands who deserted their wives and fled to foreign countries;

(b) the number of such complaints from deserted wives lying pending with Government; and

(c) the complaints disposed of during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) Yes. This Ministry has received petitions from several distressed women and women groups seeking help for extradition/deportation of absconding Non Resident Indian (NRI) spouses in cases of fraudulent NRI marriages. Likewise, several distressed women as well as the Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee have separately approached the Supreme Court and the Delhi High Court, respectively, with similar requests seeking protection of the fundamental rights of the wives abandoned by NRI Husbands, including extradition /deportation of accused NRI spouses. Hence, this Ministry has introduced a bill titled "The Registration of Marriage of Non-Resident Indian Bill, 2019" in Rajya Sabha on February 11, 2019. The proposed legislation would offer greater protection to Indian citizens married to NRIs and help as a deterrent to the NRIs against harassment of their spouses, and force the accused NRI spouse to come back to India to face the legal consequences of his overt and covert acts.

(b) and (c) Between January, 2016 and 31st May, 2019 this Ministry (including the Indian Missions abroad) has received and addressed 4698 complaints of distressed Indian women deserted or harassed by their NRI spouses by providing guidance and information about procedures and mechanisms for serving judicial summons on the offending overseas Indian spouse; filing a case in an Indian court or police station; issuing Look-Out Circulars; and impounding and cancelling of Indian passport of the offending spouse etc. The year-wise data of the complaints addressed are as below: