

from the domestic industry/producers for imposition of anti-dumping duty on aluminium scrap.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Import of aluminium scrap has grown by 18.67% (in terms of quantity) in January-March, 2019 quarter compared with the same quarter of the previous year.

(d) The details are given below:—

ITCHS	Item Description	January - March, 2019		January - March, 2018	
		Quantity (TON)	Value (Mill. US\$)	Quantity (TON)	Value (Mill. US\$)
76020010	Aluminium scrap covered by ISRI Code Tablet Tabloid, Taboo, Taint/ Tabor, Take, Talap, Talcred, Taldack, Taldon, TA	3,34,725.35	533.99	281,840.29	538.99
76020090	Other Aluminium waste and scrap	94.19	0.14	286.55	0.47
	TOTAL	3,34,819.54	534.12	2,82,126.84	539.45

Decreasing trade in global economy

3873. SHRI K. J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) in what manner Government intends to increase exports when global trade is decreasing due to headwinds in the global economy;

(b) whether India is able to capitalise on the US-China trade stand off; and

(c) in what manner Government plans to bridge the trade deficit with China?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) Government has taken following initiatives for increasing exports:—

(i) Steps have been taken for increasing export credit at competitive prices. Interest Equalization Scheme on pre and post shipment rupee export credit

was introduced with effect from 1.4.2015 providing interest equalisation at 3% for labour intensive/MSME sectors. The rate was increased to 5% for MSME sectors with effect from 2.11.2018 and merchant exporters were covered under the scheme with effect from 2.1.2019.

- (ii) A new scheme called "Transport and Marketing Assistance" (TMA) scheme has been launched for mitigating disadvantage of higher cost of transportation for export of specified agriculture products.
- (iii) A comprehensive "Agriculture Export Policy" was launched on 6th December, 2018 with an aim to double farmers' income by 2022 and provide an impetus to agricultural exports.
- (iv) Various measures for improving ease of doing business were taken. India's rank in World Bank 'Ease of doing business' ranking improved from 142 in 2014 to 77 in 2018 with the rank in ' trading across borders' moving up from 122 to 80.
- (v) A new Logistics Division was created in the Department of Commerce to coordinate integrated development of the logistics sector. India's rank in World Bank's Logistics Performance Index moved up from 54 in 2014 to 44 in 2018.
- (vi) A new scheme called Scheme for Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) covering export of garments and made-ups was notified on 7.3.2019 providing refund of duties/taxes at higher rates.
- (vii) A new scheme called "Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES)" was launched with effect from 1st April, 2017 to address the export infrastructure gaps in the country.

(b) Government has analysed the tariff lines of trade between US and China for items where import duty increase has been officially announced by each country against the other. Certain tariff lines have been shortlisted where potential of exports are there to US and China as the market already exists. Concerned Government Departments and Export Promotion Councils have been sensitized to explore the possibility of boosting exports in these tariff lines.

(c) Government of India has been taking continuous and sustained steps to bridge the trade deficit by lowering trade barriers for Indian exports to China. During the 11th session of India-China Joint Group on Economic Relations(JEG), the two

countries agreed to increase bilateral trade in a more balanced and sustainable manner. In this regard various meetings have been held at the official level with Chinese counterparts as a part of our ongoing efforts, to obtain market access for various Indian agricultural, dairy, and pharmaceutical products etc. in light of the potential of these products in the Chinese market. Various protocols have been signed to facilitate export of Indian rice, rapeseed meal, tobacco and fishmeal/fish oil, chilli meal, from India to China. A workshop was jointly conducted by National Medical Products Administration China, and Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation India recently with the objective to train Indian pharma exporters.

The Government of India has also taken various measures to extend support to exporters by facilitating Buyers Seller meets between potential Chinese importers and Indian exporters to increase exports of sugar, oil meals, Indian rice, grapes etc. In addition, Indian exporters are encouraged to participate in major trade fairs in China, to showcase Indian products.

Penalty levied on tobacco growers of Andhra Pradesh

3874. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of tobacco growing farmers from Andhra Pradesh has met the Minister and requested him to protect the tobacco-growing farmers in the State of Andhra Pradesh by reducing the penalty levied on them and sanctioning compensation to them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has taken any decision on their request, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A delegation of tobacco farmers from Andhra Pradesh met the Minister for Commerce and Industry and highlighted the issues regarding penalty on sale of excess Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco and compensation for tobacco barns.

(c) For every crop cycle in the State of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, notification permitting sale of excess production of FCV tobacco is being issued from time to time so as to restrict/regulate excess and unauthorized production of FCV tobacco produced by registered/unregistered growers.