

**Export Oriented Units in the Areas Marked  
for Small Scale Sectors**

873. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to permit export oriented units to enter such areas which were earlier marked for small scale sectors for allocation of funds to States for building infrastructure for Export Oriented Units;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the details of such areas; and

(c) the details of precautions taken for the protection of small scale sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) Export-Oriented Units (EOUs) undertake to export their entire production and may be set up for all permissible items including those reserved for Small Scale Industries (SSI). EOUs are provided with a limited access to the domestic market as a safety net against international market fluctuations but this is not expected to significantly affect the domestic industry.

Besides, non-SSI units in the Domestic Tariff area are also permitted to manufacture items reserved for the small scale sector on their undertaking to export 75% of their production.

A centrally sponsored Export Promotion Industrial Parks (EPIP) Scheme has been formulated to assist State Governments in establishing infrastructural facilities for export oriented production. So far such Parks have been approved to be set up in Dhandari Kalan (Punjab), Ambamath (Maharashtra) Baddi (HP), Sitapura (Rajasthan), Hoodi (Karnataka), Kakkannad (Kerala), Kundli (Haryana), Surajpur (U.P.), Gummidipoondi (Tamil Nadu), Pashamylaram (A.P.), Savli (Gujarat), Hajipur (Bihar), Durgapur (West Bengal), Bymihat (Meghalaya), and Dewas (M.P.).

**Child Labour**

874. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether environmental degradation has ramifications on child labour;

(b) whether the Centre of Concern For Child Labour (CCFCL) has conducted any study in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to tackle the phenomenal growth in the number of child labourers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) As per information received from Centre of Concern for Child Labour, they have conducted a Study of relationship between environment and Child Labour. The Centre of Concern for Child Labour has further reported that the full and final report will be ready after some time.

(d) Government of India has recognised that child labour is due to a large number of factors such as poverty, lack of education, lack of awareness etc. Keeping all this in view, the Government announced the National Policy on Child Labour in August, 1987 to tackle the problem of child labour. National Child Labour Policy has three point action plans to rehabilitate child labour i.e. (i) a legislative action plan; (ii) focussing of general development programmes for benefitting children wherever possible and (iii) project-based action plan in areas of high concentration of child labour engaged in wage/quasi-wage employment.

At present, 12 National Child Labour Projects are under implementation in 8 States covering approximately 16,000 children. A major activity undertaken under the National Child Labour Projects is establishment of special schools to provide basic needs like non-formal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition etc., to the children withdrawn from employment. Voluntary agencies are being financially assisted to the extent of 75% for taking up welfare projects for working children under the Grants-in-Aid Scheme. A major programme has been launched by the Government of India to eliminate child labour estimated at 20 lakhs working in hazardous occupations, by the year 2000. For the current year, the Planning Commission has allotted Rs. 34.4 crores with the assurance of more funds, depending upon performance.

**Shortage of Pilots in IA**

875. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Indian Airlines Air bus -300 aircraft are not being flown due to shortage of trained pilots; and

(b) if so, the manner in which the Government propose to recruit and train adequate number of suitable and technically qualified pilots for Airbus-300 aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Due to shortage of Commanders, IA is presently unable to make optimum use of the A 300 aircraft on its fleet.

(b) The training of pilots is required to be carried out as per the career pattern, agreed between Indian Commercial Pilots Association (ICPA) and the Management. As per the present career pattern, Commanders on A-320 type of aircraft are to be trained as Commanders on A-300 type of aircraft. At present, Indian Airlines is unable to upgrade A-320 Commanders as A-300 Commanders due to shortage of Commanders on A-320 type of aircraft.

However, in order to maintain the planned schedule, Indian Airlines has offered contractual appointment to A-300 Commanders who have retired during the last two years. In addition, one retired Air India Commander has also been appointed on contract basis.

#### Trade Deficit

876. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the trade deficit has increased enormously in the recent months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of import and export position at present; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Trade deficit during April-June, 1995 is provisionally estimated at US \$ 824.20 million which is higher than the deficit during the corresponding period last year.

(b) The increased level of deficit could be attributed to an increase in both oil and non-oil imports, the latter comprising raw materials, intermediates, capital goods and export-linked imports; the higher-level of non-oil imports is due to a higher industrial growth and an accelerated export performance.

(c) Details of exports and imports during the first quarter (April-June), 1995-96 and growth thereof are as under :

	US \$ Million	% Growth
Imports	7991.70 (P)	37.5
Exports	7167.50 (P)	27.7

(P : Provisional).

(d) Recognising that international trade is a key component of global economic activity today, the

Government have taken a number of steps to encourage and maintain strong export growth. India's trade policy was liberalised in July '91 to respond to the opportunities and challenges posed by the domestic and international developments. The trade policy is aimed at creating a freer environment for trade, strengthening the export promotion structure, removing procedural irritants through simplification and streamlining of procedures, increasing export production, improving efficiency and sharpening competitive edge, facilitating input availability, focussing on quality and technological upgradation besides introducing and strengthening schemes for export promotion. Efforts have been made to provide cheaper export credit and provide tax exemption on export profits. Export Promotion is a continuous process and steps are taken to boost exports in consultation with trade, industry and concerned institutions.

#### Expansion of Fleet by Air India

877. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (Deepa) : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Air India to expand fleet by wet leasing" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated June 24, 1995;

(b) if so, the details of the points mentioned in the news-item and the present position/decision taken to acquire the aircraft; and

(c) the routes on which these aircraft are likely to be deployed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Air India is taking steps to improve its product, image and on time performance. As regards acquisition of additional aircraft on lease basis, no final decision has been taken so far.

#### Seized Hashish

878. SHRI SIMON MARANDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether hashish and some other objectionable items have been seized by customs department from several foreign nationals who were going abroad from Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of such foreign nationals from whom charas, hashish and other objectionable items have been seized since January, 1995 till date;

(c) the details of the seizure made in this regard;