

**MAITRI**

1506. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:  
SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's permanent station at Antarctica called "Maitri" is linked with Electronic Mail network;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent up to which the participating laboratories are likely to be able to get data as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS, AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Maitri was uplinked with the Electronic mail on 7th February, 1995 using the ERNET network of Department of Electronics during the course of the XIV Antarctic Expedition. Messages are routed via the international satellite "INMARSAT" and received at the land-earth station "ARVI" near Pune before being finally transmitted from Bombay.

(c) This network can be accessed both nationally and internationally by any participating laboratory having E-mail facility for a two way data and information transfer. One line data transfer on a real time basis is being done by scientists from almost all participating laboratories in the Indian Antarctic Expedition. Day to day messages of official nature are also transmitted through this facility.

[English]

**Technical Help From Canada**

1507. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Canada offered technical help for the repair of two nuclear reactors in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the response of the Government to the offer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE

AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b). No offer from the Canadian Government has been received for repair of two nuclear reactors in Rajasthan. Information exchange is taking place with suppliers from Canada.

[Translation]

**New Schemes for Khadi and Cottage Industry**

1508. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:  
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposed new schemes for the development of the Khadi and Cottage Industries and the extent of assistance to be provided to them;

(b) the nature of assistance being provided for setting up of such industries in the rural/tribal and backward areas;

(c) the details thereof, State-wise and the action taken in this regard so far; and

(d) the amount provided under each of these schemes during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Exports by SSI**

1509. SHRI GUMAN LAL LODHA:  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the share of small sector in country's total export is constantly increasing during the last few years;

(b) if so, the share of small sector in total export during the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(c) whether certain incentives were provided for promotion of export especially to the small scale sector during these years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the estimated share of small scale sector in the total export by the final years of the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY ( DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The percentage share of SSI sector in total exports has increased in 1993-94 over the year 1992-93. The data for the year 1994-95 is not available. Details of Export Statistics are as under:-

Year	Percentage share of SSI in total Exports
1992-93	33.34
1993-94	36.38
1994-95	Not yet available.

(c) and (d). The Government is providing the following benefits to SSI Sector for promoting exports:-

(i) Selected SSI units are being sponsored in International exhibitions held abroad. The expenses towards space rent, freight, insurance, handling & clearing of exhibits are met by Government. The trade enquiries generated are circulated on All India basis for beneficial use/ commercial negotiations by SSI manufacturers. The participation of SIDO in the selected international exhibitions started from 1985 onwards.

(ii) Training programmes on packaging for Exports are organised in various parts of the country to acquaint SSI Exporters of the latest Packaging Standards/ Techniques. These programmes are organised in association with Indian Institute of Packaging which provides the necessary expertise in the matter. The programmes are industry specific as well as general. These training Programmes were started from 1978-79 onwards.

(iii) Government is providing technical and managerial consultancy to the SSI manufacturers/exporters.

(iv) Government have instituted National Award for Quality products which are given to the SSI manufacturers for promoting Quality consciousness

in the country. These Awards help in promoting Quality Production and thereby promoting exports. These awards were instituted in the year 1986.

(v) Under the EXIM policy, additional weightage is given on exports of SSI products for recognition as Export House/trading House/Star Trading House/ Super Star Trading House. On attaining this status such Houses are eligible for grant of special Import Licence. 1% extra SIL is permitted to exporters for exporting goods manufactured by SSI.

(vi) In addition to above, the incentives as provided in the EXIM policy 1992-97 are also available to SSI Exporters.

(e). Going by the present trend the estimated share of small scale sector in the total exports by the final year of the Eighth Plan is likely to be between 37-40%

[English]

#### Foreign Tobacco Companies

1510. DR. R. MALLU:  
SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have granted permission to foreign tobacco companies to produce products in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the location of such plants;

(d) whether any stipulation has been made on the minimum quality of tobacco to be used by such firms; and

(e) the details of ownership of such foreign tobacco companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY ( DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: (a) to (e). M/s R.J. Reynold Tobacco International S.A, Switzerland have been granted a foreign collaboration approval and letter of intent on the 23rd and 26th April, 1993 respectively, for setting up of joint venture as a new undertaking at a permissible location in India for the manufacture of tobacco/cigarettes, *inter alia* on the following terms:-