

Dalurband, S Samla, Kapasara, S S pur, Khandra, C L Jambad, Lachipur, KK OCP, Ratibati Project, Chaputkhas, W.Kendra OCP, New Kenda, Nabakajora, Nutandanga, Amritnagar, Kuardih, Tirath, Pure Searsole, Bhanora, Bhanora, W/B, Kalidapur, Ardhamgram, Ghusick, KD Seam, Madhiapur.

1995-96

Madhaipur, Pandaveeshwar, South Samla, SSpur, Tirath Kurdi, Ratibati, Chapuikhas, Mithapur, Kunustoria Poidih, Khairabad.

1994-95

Pandaveeshwar, Dalurband, UG, South Samla, Madhaipur, Dalurband OCP, J Palasthali, Gangaramachak, Kumardihi A, Kumardihi B, Tilaboni, Bannora, Khandra, Siduli, CL Jambal, Lowerkenda, Madhushdanpur, Madhujore, Parascole, Khas Kajora, Lachipur, Ghanashyam UG, Belband, N/Searsole, Kunustoria, Parasia. 6 & 7 Inc. Chapuikhas, Ardhamgram, Bhanora R, Bhanora West, Kalipahari, Ghusik R, Methani, Narasmunda, Parbella, Dubeshwari, Mohanpur, Barmuri, Shyampur B.

Bharat Coking Coal Limited

1996-97

East Katra, Kustore, Ganhoodih, G OCP, Maheshpur, Jogidih, Balihari, Laikidih Deep, Victoria West.

1995-96

Mudidih, North Tisra, South Tisra

1994-95

Moodidih, Kankanee, Tetulmari Bastacolla, Bera, Dobari, Ganhoodih, Kujama, Kuya, G OCP, N. Tisra, S Tisra, Jeenagora, Jairampur, Muraidih, Jamunla OCP, Balihari, Bhagaband, Hurliladih, Basantimata

Central Coalfields Limited

1996-97

Lapanga

1995-96

Siraka UG, Argara, Kathara, S Dhord Kalyani

1994-95

Bhurkuna, Lapanga, Saunda, A Karanpura, K Karanpura, Sayal D, Urimari, Gidi 'A' Religara, Sirka UG, Sirka OC, Rohini OCP, Churi, Karkata, Shok OCP, Tetarikhar OC, K Dewarkhand, Swang & Pipradih, Govindpur (P), Kathara, Jarandih, Dhori, N.S. Dhori, Amlo, Kalyani, Tarmi, Dhori-K, Giridih OCP, Kabribad PDS/TRN, Kuju, Seemra, Sugla, Pundi, Topa, Pindra, Sarubera, NR Siding, Chinpur Siding.

[English]

Import of Cardamom

628. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of cardamom has fallen during 1997-98;

(b) whether licence has been given for importing cardamom;

(c) if so, the details of the countries from which import of cardamom is proposed and quantum thereof;

(d) whether the Government are aware that a large quantity of cardamom is being smuggled into India from countries like Nepal; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Cardamom being a consumer item, its import is not permitted except against an import licence. Details of import of small cardamom during last two years are given below:

Year	Qty (MT)	Value (Rs. Lakhs)
1995-96	26.00	20.75
1996-97	28.00	45.40
1997-98	22.00	36.09
(Up to Nov. 97)		DGCI&S, Calcutta.

Import are mainly from Singapore and Myanmar.

(d) Growers of Cardamom have represented to the Government that small cardamom is finding its way illegally into India.

(e) Concerned Customs authorities and their field formations have been alerted to prevent any smuggling of cardamom from Nepal into India.

Industrial Policy for North-Eastern Region

629. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to formulate a separate Industrial Policy for the North-Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the salient features of the policy; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) to (c) A new industrial policy for the North Eastern region was announced by the Government on December 24, 1997. Details of the Policy are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

New Industrial Policy and other concession in the North-Eastern Region

The Government has approved the new Industrial Policy and other Concessions in the North Eastern Region which *inter alia* envisage the following:

A. Development of Industrial Infrastructure

- (i) Government has approved that entire expenditure on the growth centres would be provided as Central assistance, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 15 crores.
- (ii) In respect of the IID centres the funding pattern would be changed from 2:3 between GOI and SIDBI to 4:1, and the GOI funds would be a grant.

B. Transport Subsidy Scheme

- (i) The Transport subsidy scheme will be extended further in so far as N.E. States are concerned, for a period of another 7 years i.e. upto 31st March, 2007.

C. Fiscal incentives to new industrial units and their substantial expansion

- (i) Government has approved for converting the growth centres and IIDCs into a tax free zone for the next 10 years. All industrial activity in these zones would be free from income tax and excise duty, for a period of 10 years from the commencement of production. State Governments would be requested to grant exemptions in respect of Sales Tax and Municipal Tax.
- (ii) Industries located in the growth centres would also be given capital investment subsidy at the rate of 15% of their investment in plant and machinery, subject to a maximum ceiling of Rs. 30 lakhs.
- (iii) An interest subsidy of 3% on the working capital loans would be provided for a period of ten years after the commencement of production.
- (iv) Similar benefits would also be extended to the new industrial units or their substantial expansion in other Growth centres of IIDCs or industrial estates/ parks/export promotion zones set up by the States in the NE region.

D. Relaxation of PMRY Norms

- (i) The PMRY would be expanded in scope to cover areas of horticulture, piggery, poultry, fishing, Small tea gardens, etc. So as to cover all economically viable activities. PMRY would have a family income ceiling of Rs. 40,000 per annum for each beneficiary along with his/her spouse and upper age limit will be relaxed to 40 years. Projects costing upto Rs. 2 lakhs in other than business sectors will be eligible for assistance. No collateral will be insisted for projects costing upto Rs. 1 lakh. Group financing upto Rs. 5 lakhs will be eligible. Scheme will have a subsidy component @ 15% with an upper ceiling of Rs. 15,000. The margin money may vary from 5% to 12.5% of the project cost to make the subsidy and margin contribution at 20% of the project cost. PMRY would continue to have Entrepreneurship Training Component as per the existing rate.

E. Other Incentives Proposed

- (i) A comprehensive insurance scheme for industrial units in the North East will be designed in consultation with General Insurance Corporation of India Ltd. and 100% premium for a period of 10 years would be subsidised by Central Government.
- (ii) A one time grant of Rs.20 crores will be provided to the North East Development Financial Corporation (NEDFI) by the Central Government through NEC to fund techno-economic studies for industries and infrastructure best suited to this region.

Export Strategy

630. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had worked out a medium term export strategy for the next three years and announced it in January this year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken to implement and enforce the strategy?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry has prepared a Medium term strategy covering sectoral and directional aspects for achieving a targeted export level of US \$ 90 to 100 billion by the year 2002 and to achieve 1% share in world exports. The sectoral strategy discusses sector specific issues and