

present there are a number of pipeline projects in Infrastructure Sector like Haryana Power Sector, IREDA-II, PSDP-II T.N. State Highway, Rajasthan State Highway, Orissa State Highway, Mumbai Urban Development Project, Illrd Madras Water Supply, Hyderabad Water Supply and Sanitation-II, National Highway III Project. These are at varying stages of consideration by the World Bank. There is a continuous dialogue by the World Bank with the Government of India in this regard.

[English]

▷ **Dereservation of SSI Items**

2729. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :
DR. SUSHIL INDORA :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the PHD chamber of Commerce and Industry has called upon the Government for reviewing the reservation list for small scale industries prepared by Abid Hussain Committee and laying down clear norms and rationale for the purpose;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether any other areas are proposed to be dereserved from Small Scale Industries regime;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the total number of items reserved for SSIs at present?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Reservation/De-reservation of items is a continuous process. The Advisory Committee on Reservation constituted under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act recommends from time to time to the Government items to be added to and deleted from the reserved list including making changes in nomenclature of items from the list of items reserved for exclusive manufacture in the Small Scale Sector.

(e) The total number of items reserved for exclusive manufacture for Small Scals Industries at present is 812.

Anti-dumping and Anti-Subsidy Investigation

2730. SHRI VITHAL TUPE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the European Commission has decided to launch anti-dumping and Anti-subsidy investigation on imports of hot rolled coil steel from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) to (c) The Commission of the European Communities has, in November, 1998, forwarded the Copy of a complaint of EUROFER, alleging that subsidized imports of certain hot rolled coils of unalloyed steel originating in India were causing material injury to the Community industry. Response of the Government of India to the complaint was submitted to the Commission through our Mission in Brussels within the stipulated time. However, the Commission, vide their Note Verbale dated 11th January 1999 informed the Government of India that following receipt of the complaint they had decided to initiate an anti-subsidy investigation. The Commission on 8th January 1999 published the notice of initiation of an anti-subsidy proceeding in the matter. A set of questionnaire in respect of Anti-subsidy proceedings was received by the Government. The Government of India has submitted the reply on 2nd March, 1999, through its legal counsel.

Simultaneously, the European Commission has also initiated an anti-dumping case on the same product against Indian companies viz M/s Essar Steel Ltd., Mumbai; M/s Lloyds Steel Industries Ltd., Mumbai; M/s Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL), New Delhi; M/s The Tata Iron and Steel Co. Ltd. (TISCO), Mumbai and M/s The Tinsplate Co. of India Ltd., Calcutta, which are already defending themselves legally. The Government has, through the Engineering Export Promotion Council and otherwise extended necessary assistance to the Indian industry.

Modernisation of Coal Mines

2731. SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Coal mines where superior grade of non-coking coal is being produced at present; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government for the modernisation of these coal mines and their washeries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) There are 339 units in Coal India Ltd. where superior grade of non-coking coal (grade 'A', 'B' and 'C') are produced.

(b) Steps being taken to modernise coal mines and washeries includes :-

(i) Mechanisation of coal loading in underground by introducing SDL and LHD.

(ii) Introduction of longwall mining where the conditions are favourable.