

(b) if so, whether this scheme has improved the competitive edge of Indian exporters in the International market; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the actual amount claimed by the exporters so far during 1995 and 1996 under the above scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Since the Scheme compensates the exporters for duties of Customs and Central Excise suffered on the inputs used in the manufacture of export goods, it improves the competitive edge of Indian exporters in the International market. The actual amount disbursed during 1995 and 1996 is approximately Rs. 2315 and 3035 crores respectively.

Anti Dumping Duty on Acrylic Fibre

4360.DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding dumping of acrylic fibre by South Korea and Taiwan in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to protect the domestic industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c) M/s. Indian Acrylic Ltd. and M/s. Pasupati Acrylon Ltd. have jointly filed a petition in accordance with the Customs Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1995 and Customs Tariff (Identification, Assessment and Collection of Anti-Dumping on Dumped Articles for the Determination of Injury) Rules, 1995, before the Designated Authority alleging dumping of Acrylic Fibres from the USA, Thailand and the Republic of Korea. Designated Authority has initiated investigations against imports from these countries on 13.9.96. Preliminary and/or final findings have not been announced yet. However, no complaint has been filed against Taiwan. The findings are notified in the official Gazette by the Designated Authority after following a quasi-judicial process and the order of the Designated Authority is appellable before the Customs, Excise and Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal.

Market Extension Centre

4361.DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to open market service extension centre for handicrafts at Nalbari in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):

(a) to (c) No, Sir. At present there are 47 Marketing and Service Extension Centres functioning in various parts of the country including two centres in Assam at Gauripur and Jorhat. The craftsmen of Nalbari are getting marketing support and extension facilities from these centres.

Export of Railways Spare Parts

4362.DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether railways spare parts particularly broad-gauge engines are being exported;

(b) if so, the details of spare parts and engines exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, country-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of these items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) The value of exports of Railway spare parts including that of broad gauge engines are given below :-

(foreign exchange equivalent in
(Rs. Crores)

Year	Value
1993-94	20.29
1994-95	46.06
1995-96	10.62
1996-97 (April-August'96)	17.26

The export of Broad-gauge engines has been made by RITES only during 1995-96 to Sri Lanka to the tune of Rs. 6.53 Crores 0.23 US \$ Mn.

The major importers of Indian railway spare parts are Canada, Australia, France, Germany, Malaysia, USA, UK, Myanmar, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia. Country-wise details are available in the DGCI&S publication "Foreign Trade Statistics of India" in the Parliament Library.

(c) Promotion of exports has been the constant endeavour of the Government. Measures taken to boost exports of engineering goods including railway spare parts, consist of various incentives under the Export-Import Policy including Duty Exemption Scheme, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, Special Import Licence, Duty Drawback Scheme, exemption under Section 80 HHC of Income Tax Act, assistance from Market Development Fund. Rail India Technical & Economic Service (RITES) & IRCON (Indian Railway Construction Company) have been nominated by Government of India, Ministry of Railways to undertake export of locomotives and rolling stock manufactured in the factories of Indian Railways, who are undertaking aggressive marketing for boosting export of Railway spare parts.