

- (b) if so, the reasons thereof;
- (c) the major problems faced by the small scale industries in the country; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to motivate the nationalised banks to extend help to the small scale industries and to remove the sickness?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the data collected by the Reserve Bank of India from the Scheduled commercial banks, the total number of sick small scale industrial units has decreased from 2,68,815 at the end of March, 1995 to 2,62,376 at the end of March, 1996.

(c) The major problems faced by the Small Scale industries are:

- i) Limited Financial resources;
- ii) Lack of organisation, financial and management skills;
- iii) Lack of developed infrastructure;
- iv) Delayed and inadequate credit;
- v) Delayed payments by large industries;
- vi) Difficulties in marketing;
- viii) Difficulties in the availability of raw materials and other inputs including power.

(d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued detailed guidelines to commercial banks on various aspects of finance to SSI sector. Banks have been advised to provide working capital credit limits to the SSIs computed on the basis of a minimum of 20% of their projected annual turnover for the SSIs having aggregate fund-based working capital credit limit upto Rs.1 crore. RBI has recently, decided to raise the limit to Rs.2 crores. Small Industries Development Bank of India has been operating Single Window Scheme since its inception under which the composite assistance for fixed assets and working capital is extended to units in SSI sector by the same agency. The scheme is operated by State Financial Corporations, Small Industries Development Corporations and scheduled commercial banks. With a view to ensure that the disbursement of credit is not delayed, banks have been instructed to adhere to the time limit for disposal of application. While applications upto a credit limit of 25000/- should be disposed of within a fortnight, those for over Rs. 25000/- should be disposed within 8 to 9 weeks from the date of receipt. Requests for increase in limits should be considered expeditiously and decision should be taken promptly in any case within six weeks.

To tackle the problem of sickness, Nayak Committee had made several recommendations and accordingly, RBI has advised banks on modified definition of sick SSI units, reduced rate of interest for rehabilitation, prompt viability studies/nursing programmes of identified sick units, setting

up of cells at important regional centres and head office to deal with sick industrial units and provision of export staff, including technical personnel to look into technical aspects.

[English]

Green Channel Facility

5491. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA:

DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of norms prescribed by the Government for trading house, star trading house, and super star house for clearance of their import and export consignments during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to grant the green channel facility to companies of holding the status of an export/trading/star trading or super star trading house;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the above facility is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (b) The facility of clearance of import and export consignments under the green channel is available to Trading House, Star trading house and super star trading houses. Under the Scheme, the examination of 100% of the consignment is waived and only some selected consignments are examined. Other facilities include:

(i) *Assessment of B/E*: Separate Group No.7A created to assess B/E (whether imported under DEEC or otherwise) regarding import made by SSTH/STH/TH.

(ii) *Examination*: Green Channel facility for export examination (random checks) extended.

(iii) *Destuffing & Examination at Party's premises*: Facility extended only if SSTH/STH/TH is a manufacturer importer, the goods are FCL and moved under customs' seal from port to party's factory.

There is no proposal at present to extend green channel facility to export houses.

Chief Controller of Import and Export

5492. SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA:

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring the Office of Chief Controller of Import and Export under the control of Ministry of Finance;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which this Office is likely to be transferred?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE: (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Review the performance of EOUs/EPZs/FT Zones

5493. SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have undertaken any comprehensive review of the performance of Export oriented Units and units set up in the export processing zones/free trade zones;

(b) if so, the details of performance of the schemes during 1996-97, State-wise and scheme-wise and how does it compare with the performance during the corresponding period by standard parameters;

(c) what are the emerging trend in the evaluation of these schemes and outstanding achievements as well as major failure notices; and

(d) the details of proposals for restructuring/revamp of these schemes to make more transparent/effective and result oriented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) The performance of Export Oriented Units and Units in the Export Processing Zones/Free Trade Zones is reviewed annually on the basis of data received from the respective Development Commissioners.

(b) Since the data for the year 1996-97 in respect of all Zones/EOUs is required to be submitted by the concerned Development Commissioners by June/July, 97, the details of performance and comparative performance with the corresponding earlier period are not known as on date.

(c) The rate of annual growth of export of EOU/EPZ units is higher than the national average annual growth of export. Whereas Gem & Jewellery, Electronics and Garments are the leading performers in terms of export performance among the EPZ units, textile including yarns, agro based products and chemical, plastic and allied industry are the leading performers under the EOUs scheme.

(d) Based on interaction with the trade and industry, and their suggestions received in respect of the EOU/EPZ Scheme, several major amendments have been effected in the Export and Import Policy, 1997-2002 to introduce more automaticity in the scheme, further simplify procedures, and give better incentives to make the schemes result oriented.

Export of Skimmed Milk

5494. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Trading Corporation has signed any agreement with Netherland to supply 15000 tonnes of skimmed milk;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this agreement was not fulfilled by State Trading Corporation;

(d) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(e) whether this non-fulfilment of agreement is likely to affect the Indian export to Netherland; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to fulfil the agreement and action taken against those found responsible for the non-fulfilment of agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (f) During Nov.- Dec. 1994, Branch Office of STC at Frankfurt signed with ITC, Austria six contracts of 250 tonnes each for export of a total quantity of 1,500 tonnes of skimmed milk powder to Netherland for delivery during Jan.-March, 1995. However, STC could not fulfil the contracts due to non-supply by the suppliers on account of increase in the domestic price of skimmed milk powder besides the restrictions imposed by Govt. of Maharashtra on export of skimmed milk powder.

While non-supply of goods under a single commercial contract is unlikely to affect export to Netherland, based on an internal inquiry conducted into the deal, STC management has decided to initiate disciplinary action against officials in the light of the findings of the inquiry report.

[Translation]

Use of Hindi

5495. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to chalk out any plan for doing all the works in official language in the Golden Jubilee Celebration year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the reasons for not reconstituting 'Hindi Salahakar Samiti' in the year ended 1996; and

(e) the time by which 'Hindi Salahakar Samiti' likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) As per the Government policy on official language efforts are made to resort to maximum use of