

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1777
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2009
TRADE RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make improvements in trade-related infrastructure;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken steps to cut down on cargo turnaround time and setting up of cold chains for agriculture exports; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. This has been the consistent endeavour of Department of Commerce that trade-related infrastructure is improved. The other Ministries concerned, such as Ministry of Shipping, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Home Affairs (Department of Border Management), Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) etc., take steps for improvement of trade-related infrastructure within their budgetary constraints.

Besides, Department of Commerce is operating a scheme namely "Assistance to States for Infrastructure Development of Exports" (ASIDE) with objective to involve State Governments in the export efforts by providing incentive linked financial support to them for creation of infrastructure critical for growth of export. The outlay of the Scheme operates under two components i.e. 80% of the total outlay is allocated amongst the states is called as State Component. The balance 20% of the outlay forms Central Component. Since inception of the Scheme i.e., 2002-2003, a total number of 1369 projects at the cost of Rs.20597.82 crores have been approved for implementation in order to improve critical export related infrastructure.

(c) & (d) Yes, Madam. At the initiative of Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Commerce & Industry, a separate appendix No.40 has been incorporated in the Foreign Trade Policy 2009-2014, on introduction of a single window system to facilitate export of perishable agricultural produce including reduced transaction and handling costs. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under its Infrastructure Development scheme has been extending financial assistance to individual exporters as also the State/Central Government agencies for setting up pre cooling facilities, high humidity Cold Stores, Controlled Atmosphere Stores, Modified Atmosphere Storage and reefer vans etc. Public Sector agencies are extended financial assistance for setting up common infrastructure facilities like integrated pack houses, Centres for Perishable Cargo, Flower Auction Centres, etc.