## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:455 ANSWERED ON:14.07.2014 EXPORT IN IT SECTOR Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

## Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether according to National Association of Software Services Companies (NASSCOM) the Information Technology (IT) export of the country has been affected and is on continual decline due to reduction in IT expenditure by certain developed countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of the export in IT sector during the last three years and the current year so far; and
- (c) the steps taken and assistance provided by the Government to increase the export in IT sector?

## **Answer**

## MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) and (b): As per the information received from NASSCOM, the exports of the Indian Information Technology-Information Technology Enabled Services (IT-ITES) industry have been growing over the past years. The exports of IT-ITES sector during the past three years viz., 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 and the estimates for the year 2013-14 are as under: -

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Year Export in Export in US$ Growth Rate YoY INR Crore Billion
In INR Terms In US$ Terms

2010-11 268609 59.0 14.29 % 18.8 %

2011-12 332769 68.8 23.89 % 16.5 %

2012-13 412191 75.8 23.87 % 10.6 %

2013-14 519319 86.0 25.99 % 13.1 %

(E)
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E = Estimate

Source: NASSCOM

(c): The Government extends several incentives for promotion of IT-ITES Sector. Under the Software Technology Parks (STP) scheme, which is administered by the Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), an autonomous society under the Department of Electronics & Information Technology (DeitY), Ministry of Communications & IT, the IT-ITES units are eligible for various benefits such as Customs Duty exemption on imported goods, reimbursement of Central Sales Tax (CST) and Excise Duty exemptions on procurement of indigenously manufactured goods. Further, the Department of Commerce (DOC), Ministry of Commerce & Industry through Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) and Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme assists exporters especially Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs) for export promotion activities abroad. DOC has notified 235 IT-ITES specific Special Economic Zones (SEZs). Currently, the SEZs units are eligible for tax benefits as per Section 10AA of the Income Tax Act for a period of 15 years in a phased manner. Further, the SEZ rules were also modified to meet some of the specific sectoral characteristic of the IT sector. Recently, the Government has removed the minimum land requirement for setting up SEZ for IT/ITeS, and the minimum processing area requirement is applicable as per category of the cities.