

Industrial Policy for Chandigarh

2486. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any industrial policy for the development of industry in the Union Territory of Chandigarh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by which the Government are likely to announce/implement such policy?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) to (d) The Industrial Policy of Government of India, which aims at promotion and proper development of industries, is applicable to the entire country including the Union Territory of Chandigarh. The State Governments/ Union Territories are free to frame their own industrial policy.

Trade Relations with Israel

2487. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be please to state:

- (a) whether the Government have established trade relations with Israel;
- (b) if so, the areas in which Indo-Israel trade has been established;
- (c) the growth rate of India's export to that country and vice-versa during the last three years; and
- (d) the steps taken to expand Indo-Israel trade relations?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Our main exports to Israel are gems and jewellery, cotton and manmade yarn/textiles, cashew, coffee, organic/inorganic/basic/fine chemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals, engineering goods, handicrafts, etc. Our main imports from Israel are fertilizers, pearls, precious stones, organic/inorganic chemicals, machinery, project goods, electronic goods, petroleum products, etc.

(c) The growth rate in bilateral trade during the last 3 years has been as under :-

EXPORTS FROM INDIA		IMPORTS BY INDIA	
1995-96	53.5%	1995-96	(-) 3.5%
1996-97	3.6%	1996-97	21.9%
1997-98	62.9%	1997-98	26.9%

(d) The signing of the bilateral agreement on trade and economic cooperation in December, 1994, the

holding of the First meeting of India-Israel Joint Trade and Economic Committee in January, 1996, exchange of delegations, participation in fairs, formation of India-Israel business Alliance, facilitating direct business level contacts, etc. have assisted in the expansion of bilateral trade.

Suggestions by FIED

2488. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have asked the Federation of Indian Export Organisation to make a study to suggest streamlining and simplification of policy and procedure in respect of exports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have received the recommendations of the FIED;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the actions taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) to (e) Based on the feedback received from its members through representations, Open House Meets, etc., the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) annually submits a paper to Government, giving various suggestions for boosting exports. This year also, the Federation had submitted some suggestions on Exim Policy and Procedures. The inputs received from FIEO were duly considered while making changes in the Exim Policy this year.

Helicopter Services for Tourist Places in Bihar

2489. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to provide helicopter services to connect Nalanda, Bihar Sharif, Pawanpuri and Bodhgaya with major cities in order to make the journey of tourists comfortable:

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount likely to be increased in the exchequer by introducing the helicopter services; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Helicopter services are provided by Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. or by private operators depending upon traffic demand and commercial criteria.