

(iv) Forty-third Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-third Report of the Committee on the Ministry of Commerce—Export Promotion.

(v) Forty-fourth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Nineteenth Report of the Committee on the Ministry of Finance—Department of Revenue—Direct Taxes (Wealth-Tax and Estate Duty)—Part I—Exemption Limits.

12.23 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON  
PUBLIC UNDERTAKING

SIXTY FIRST AND SIXTY THIRD  
REPORTS

SHRI MADHUSUDAN VAIRALE (Akola) : I beg to present the following Reports and Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings:—

- (i) Sixty-first Report on Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Limited and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.
- (ii) Sixty-third Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Forty first Report of the Committee on Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited.

12.24 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF  
SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED  
TRIBES

THIRTY SECOND AND THIRTY  
FORTH REPORTS

SHRI A. C. DAS (Jajpur) : I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes:—

(i) Thirty-second Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twentieth Report of the Committee on the Ministry of Railway (Railway Board)—Reservations for and employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Southern Railway.

(ii) Thirty-fourth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-first Report of the Committee on the Ministry of Home Affairs—Socio-economic condition of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Union Territory of Delhi.

12.26 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. IMPORT AND  
EXPORT POLICY FOR 1983-84.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : Sir, I am happy to place on the Table of the House, the Import & Export Policy for 1983-84. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6384/83.]

In formulating this Policy, we have kept in view the challenges of international trade as well as the essential needs of our rapidly growing economy. The major objectives of the Policy are :—

To provide further impetus to exports.

To effect all possible savings in imports.

To provide support to the growth of indigenous industry.

To maximize the utilisation of our major resource endowments in manpower and agriculture.

The Policy also makes provisions for upgrading technology, particularly for export production and energy conservation.

Import procedures have also been further simplified, especially to assist small scale units and to encourage non-resident Indians for setting up industries in India.

## EXPORTS

Further improvements have been made in the Policy with a view to strengthen the production base for exports.

The scheme for providing duty free inputs for exporters will continue.

The Open General Licence for approved 100% Export Oriented Units has been substantially enlarged to include second-hand capital goods, diesel generating sets consumables and packing materials apart from new capital goods, raw materials and components which are already permitted. The facility of OGL imports for capital goods has also been extended to other units producing exclusively for exports.

A greater measure of flexibility will be available in utilisation of import replenishment entitlements earned by manufacturers having substantial export performance to their credit.

Exporters entering new markets or exporting new products, as may be specified, will be eligible for relatively higher import replenishment in view of the higher costs and efforts involved.

The new Import Policy is intended to establish a more enduring relationship between Export Houses and their supporting manufacturers. Reductions have been made in their import entitlements. However, they have been allowed a greater flexibility in the utilization of these entitlements.

As the Hon'ble Members are aware, most commodities are freely exportable. Certain controls over exports apply only to a limited number of items, such as some essential commodities of mass consumption.

We have now added some more items to the Open General Licence for exports. The ban on export of sugarcane and khandsari sugar has been lifted; these items have been placed on Open General Licence. Other items added to the OGL List include peanut butter, jaggery (gur), barley and compound cattle and poultry feeds.

To harness the initiative of the private trade, export of castor oil to the General currency area has been permitted to private agencies as well.

Basmati rice will continue to be freely exportable.

## IMPORT SAVING

A number of provisions have been made in the policy to effect reduction in imports. A special procedure has been evolved to regulate import of components in conformity with approved phased manufacturing programmes. Industrial units registered with DGTD, who wish to import components for the manufacture of machinery and equipment will now be required to get the list of components cleared in advance from the DGTD. This procedure is intended to promote indigenous production of components which should result in saving of imports.

Incentive has been provided for those exporters who voluntarily surrender their import replenishment licences and thus forego their entitlement to import highly restricted and banned items as replenishment in inputs used in exports. The value of such surrendered REP entitlements will be taken into account in computing the export performance of the concerned exporter, for certain benefits under the policy.

Incentive has also been provided for those indigenous manufacturers who are able to supply their material locally on competitive prices, against valid import licences. Such licences will cease to be valid for direct import to the extent of procurement from indigenous sources.

[Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

Actual Users will continue to have access to all OGL items. However, in the case of Trading Houses and Export Houses, the earlier facility of such imports being allowed without debit to the value of their REP and additional licences has been withdrawn. This is expected to act as a check on possibilities of unregulated and speculative imports of OGL items.

Import of certain categories of steel will be allowed only if indigenous production cannot adequately meet the demand.

Applications for import of second hand capital goods will now be considered on a centralised basis for exercising closer scrutiny from the indigenous angle.

Import of spares to actual users will continue to be allowed for proper maintenance of their capital assets, but some of the provisions in this regard have been tightened. This has been done in order to provide an opportunity to indigenous industry to develop capacity for manufacture of such items.

#### SUPPORT TO INDIGENOUS INDUSTRY

A number of items for which production has developed in the country have been taken out of Open General Licence, to provide reasonable support to the indigenous industry. For the same reason, a number of items have been shifted from the automatic permissible list to limited permissible and banned lists.

Provision have been made for import on OGL of a number of capital good, such as machine tools, machinery for the electronic industry and machinery used by small scale and export oriented units such as garments and hosiery, cutting and polishing of diamonds etc. Import of these items, which have been cleared from indigenous angle, is expected to strengthen the base of production in the small scale and export oriented sectors.

The scheme for utilising indigenously manufacturers of such intermediate products, to be used in the final export products, has been rationalised. Manufacturers of such intermediates will henceforth be able to supply their products to approved 100% export oriented units as well. This will enable better utilisation of capacity installed in the country for manufacture of intermediates.

Actual Users will continue to obtain their requirements of raw materials and components against automatic licences. Actual Users who obtained automatic licences of value not exceeding Rs. 2 Lakhs last year, have been allowed repeat operation of the same licence, with certain conditions. Similarly, automatic licences of small value will be issued on repeat basis, without reference to actual consumption. This procedural simplification will further assist smaller entrepreneurs to organise their production base.

#### UTILISATION OF MANPOWER & NATURAL RESOURCES

In almost all aspects of the policy, our effort has been to specifically given a special thrust towards assisting the small scale and cottage industries. We are confident that these measures will be of significance to our craftsmen and technicians and will promote further employment avenues for utilization of our manpower in labour intensive sectors.

In the interest of agricultural exports, we have introduced provisions for a simpler procedure for import of essential machinery, provided it is not indigenously available. A number of items of equipment and other inputs required for meat and fish products have been permitted under Open General Licence.

#### TECHNOLOGY UPGRADATION

Further provisions have been made in the policy to encourage technology upgradation, especially for recognised R & D units. Small scale units having good export potential will be automatically allowed to import prototypes, upto a specified value limit, for improvement of designs.

The policy would continue to provide for import of items required for energy conservation or for alternative resources of energy. Some more items have been placed on OGL in pursuance of this objective.

#### OTHER PROVISIONS

Import of specialised aids for physically handicapped persons will continue to be permitted liberally. Besides, applications for import of capital goods for setting up industries to rehabilitate disabled persons will be given special consideration. Import of specially designed components will be allowed for manufacture of vehicles fitted with disability controls and devices, for use by physically handicapped persons.

A comparatively simpler procedure has been evolved for import of equipments required for development of sports.

Import procedures have been further simplified. REP licensing work for exporters has been completely decentralised. This will provide better service to small exporters.

Formalities of import licencing products have been dispensed with for non-resident Indians who wish to set up small scale industries in India. They have been allowed to import capital goods and initial requirement of raw materials under OGL.

It is hoped that, through these measures, further impetus will be given to exports, savings in imports will be effected, growth of indigenous industry assured, and our major endowments of manpower and agriculture will be fully exploited.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Sir, it is a very important policy Statement. I have given a notice under Rules 193 and 184 that there should be a discussion on this Statement

because the demands of the Ministry of Commerce are likely to be guillotined. Therefore, I have suggested that a discussion may be taken up on this and Parliament must find some time for it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It will be duly considered.

PRO. MADHU DANDAVATE : You are replying like a Minister, Sir.

12.30 hrs.

#### CENTRAL INDUSTRIAL SECURITY FORCE (AMENDMENT) BILL\*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LAKSAR) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Central Industrial Security Force Act, 1968.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: (Barasat) : Sir, I rise to oppose the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Take only one or two minutes.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Why, Sir ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Because it is a very small Bill.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: A small Bill does not mean that it is right.

I rise to oppose the introduction of the Bill. The reasons are as follows:

The Bill, although it looks very innocent, has got a deeper intention.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Innocent. Like the Minister.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Yes, I am also innocent.

The purpose of the amending Bill is to change the very character of the parent Act.