RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2129 (H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06th DECEMBER, 2019

REVIVAL OF TEXTILE SECTOR

2129(H). SHRI P.L. PUNIA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has recommended for revival of the textile sector;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) whether Government, for revival of textile sector, intends to review the Free Trade Agreements with the countries like Bangladesh from whom no duty is charged for access to the Indian markets?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a)& (b):- The Government is continuously working to promote the textile sector. Government has launched Amended Technology Up-gradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS) for upgradation of technology in textiles sector. In order to bring about integration of value chain in the sector, the Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) has been launched. Further, for handloom, National Handloom Development Programme, Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme, Handloom Weaver Comprehensive Welfare Scheme and Yarn Supply Schemes have been launched. For powerloom sector, a comprehensive scheme namely PowerTex India and for the development of silk industry an integrated Scheme “Silk Samagra” has also been launched. For promoting textiles industry in the North East Region, a scheme North East Region Textile Promotion Scheme (NERTPS) is being implemented.

(C): The trade relations between India and neighboring countries are governed by bilateral and multilateral trade agreements. India-Bangladesh Trade Agreement does not prescribe any tariff concessions for the bilateral trade between the two countries and it is only a facilitative mechanism for the enhancement of trade. The Agreement was last renewed in June 2015 for a period of 5 years with automatic renewal clause. The renewal is effective from 01 April 2015. At present, no formal review of the regional agreements viz, The Agreement on SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA) and South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) has been carried out and is proposed.

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IMPACT OF RCEP AGREEMENT

2130. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:

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

(a) whether Government has signed Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) pact during the Prime Minister's recent visit to Bangkok;
(b) if so, the detail thereof;
(c) whether Government is aware that the impact of the agreement will be worst; and
(d) the details of remedial measures being taken by Government to ward off the negative impact of the RCEP agreement?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (d): During the 3rd Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Leaders Summit which was held on 4 November, 2019 in Bangkok, India stated that the current structure of RCEP did not reflect the RCEP Guiding Principles or address the outstanding issues and concerns of India, in the light of which India did not join consensus. The Government also held regular stakeholder consultations and had taken the inputs received during these consultations into consideration while formulating its position in the RCEP negotiations. Moreover, RCEP had provisions on trade remedies while India sought an automatic trigger safeguard mechanism (ATSM) for tackling import surges.

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RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2132 (H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06th DECEMBER, 2019

CONDITIONS DILUTING INDIAN INTERESTS UNDER RCEP

2132(H). SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) the details of conditions diluting the Indian interests under Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement; and

(b) whether Government has protected the interests of farmers, micro, small and medium enterprises, textiles industry, dairy, drugs and chemical industries by rejecting the said agreement, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (b): During the 3rd RCEP Leaders Summit which was held on 4 November, 2019 in Bangkok, India stated that the current structure of RCEP did not reflect the RCEP Guiding Principles or address the outstanding issues and concerns of India, in the light of which India did not join consensus. The Government has held regular stakeholders’ consultations with and received inputs from the domestic industry, exporters, trade experts, concerned Ministries/Departments and State Governments. These inputs were taken into consideration while formulating India’s position in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations, with a view to achieving balanced outcomes, balancing ambitions with addressing domestic sensitivities including that of farmers, micro, small and medium enterprises, textiles industry, dairy, drugs and chemical industries.

*****
IMPACT OF RCEP

2134. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA:

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

(a) whether Government has made an assessment of the impact of proposed Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement;
(b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
(c) whether Government has taken a decision not to sign the said agreement;
(d) if so, the details thereof;
(e) whether Government's decision would protect the interests of small entrepreneurs in India; and
(f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (f): With a view to assessing the impact of the proposed Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement, the Government also held regular stakeholders’ consultations and received inputs from the domestic industry, exporters, trade experts and concerned Ministries/Departments. These inputs have been taken into consideration while formulating India’s position in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations. During the 3rd RCEP Leaders Summit which was held on 4 November, 2019 in Bangkok, India stated that the current structure of RCEP did not reflect the RCEP Guiding Principles or address the outstanding issues and concerns of India, in the light of which India did not join consensus. India’s position in RCEP was also aimed at protecting the interests and domestic sensitivities of its stakeholders including small entrepreneurs.

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

(a) the number of students who have passed out of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) in the past five years;
(b) the number of students who have passed out of IIFT in the past five years belong to SC, ST and OBC category; and
(c) the strength of the teaching staff at IIFT and how many of them belong to SC, ST and OBC category?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b): The details of students who have passed out of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) in the past five years including those belonging to SC, ST and OBC category is at Appendix A.

(c) The details of strength of teaching staff at IIFT including those belonging to SC, ST and OBC category is at Appendix B.

*******
**APPENDIX A**

### MBA (IB) (Full Time)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Delhi</th>
<th>Kolkata</th>
<th>Delhi &amp; Kolkata</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gen</td>
<td>OBC</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-15</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>09</td>
<td>06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-16</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-17</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016-18</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-19</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*SC/ST/OBC students, who qualify for IIFT, also subsequently qualify for IIMs and join them. Thus, reserve category students remains limited in IIFT.*

### MBA (IB) Part Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Delhi</th>
<th>Kolkata</th>
<th>Delhi &amp; Kolkata</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gen</td>
<td>OBC</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>32</td>
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<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### List of Ph.D. degrees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Gen</th>
<th>SC/ST/PH</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
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<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
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</table>

### Executive Program Diplomas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Gen</th>
<th>SC</th>
<th>ST</th>
<th>OBC</th>
<th>PH</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>62</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Gen</th>
<th>SC</th>
<th>ST</th>
<th>OBC</th>
<th>PH</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>49</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>Not Commenced</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>Not Commenced</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## The Strength of the teaching staff at IIFT including those belonging to SC, ST and OBC Category-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>SC</th>
<th>ST</th>
<th>OBC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>55</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2136
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06th DECEMBER, 2019

DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES

2136. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:

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

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to extend the time for developers for development of Special Economic Zone (SEZ) projects in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) the details of the SEZs which have got extension in the State of Andhra Pradesh; and
(d) whether any tax exemptions and other incentives have been offered, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) and (b): In terms of Rule 6(2)(a) of the Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006, the letter of approval granted to a SEZ developer is valid for a period of three years within which time effective steps are to be taken by the developer to implement the approved proposal. The Board of Approval (BoA) under Department of Commerce may, on an application by the developer and on recommendation of Jurisdictional Development Commissioner, extend the validity period of the letter of approval. BoA has granted extension of validity period to 153 developers of SEZ across the country including 7 developers in Andhra Pradesh to complete their projects till now. Developers have sought extension of validity period of the letter of approval granted to them for the execution of their projects for various reasons including adverse business climate due to global recession, delay in approvals from statutory bodies, delay in environmental clearance, etc.

(c): The details of the SEZs which have got extension in the State of Andhra Pradesh are at Annexure.

(d): The tax exemptions and other incentives allowed to SEZs are in built into the SEZs Act, 2005. Main fiscal concessions and duty benefits allowed to SEZ developers and units are as follows:
i. Exemption from Central Sales Tax, Exemption from Service Tax and Exemption from State sales tax. These have now subsumed into GST and supplies to SEZs are zero rated under IGST Act, 2017.

ii. Exemption from Income Tax for 15 years as per Income Tax Act

iii. Duty free import/domestic procurement of goods

iv. Exemption from State sales tax and other levies as extended by the respective State Governments.

*****
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Name of the Developer</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Type of SEZ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>M/s. MAS Fabric Park (India) Private Limited</td>
<td>Chintavaram village, Chilkakru Mandal, Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>Textile and Apparel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>M/s. Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation Ltd.</td>
<td>Gambheeram Village, Anandapuram Mandal, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>IT/ITES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>M/s. Dr. Reddy’s Laboratories Ltd.</td>
<td>Devunipalavalasa Village, Ranasthalam Mandal, Srikakulam District, Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>Pharmaceuticals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>M/s. Beneficent Knowledge Parks &amp; Properties Limited</td>
<td>Parigi and Serikokum Villages, Parigi Mandal, C. Kodgepalli village, Madakasara Mandal, Anantapur District, Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>Multi Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>M/s. Indus Gene Expression Ltd.</td>
<td>Kodur and Settipalli villages, Chilamathur Mandal, Anantapur District, Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>Biotech and related activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>M/s. Wipro Ltd.</td>
<td>Resapuvanipalem Village, Old TB Hospital Area, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>IT/ITES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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2137. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA:

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

(a) whether an economic impact assessment has been conducted for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Free Trade Agreement with the ASEAN countries and five other nations;
(b) whether an economic impact assessment has been conducted for the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Free Trade Agreement; and
(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c): With a view to assessing the impact of the proposed Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement and Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Free Trade Agreement, the Government held regular stakeholders’ consultations and received inputs from the Apex Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Industry Associations, exporters, trade experts and concerned Ministries/Departments.

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RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2140 (H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06th DECEMBER, 2019

CHINA'S FTA WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

2140(H). CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

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

(a) India's view on China's proposed Free Trade Agreement (Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership) among sixteen countries;
(b) whether it is a fact that according to experts, the said agreements are expected to adversely affect the agriculture and commerce sector of India; and
(c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c): India was negotiating a Free Trade Agreement known as the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) which included China and 14 other countries namely Australia, Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam. During the 3rd RCEP Summit, which was held on 4th November, 2019 in Bangkok, India highlighted the fact that the current structure of RCEP did not reflect the RCEP Guiding Principles or address the outstanding issues and concerns of India, in light of which it did not join consensus. India’s position in the RCEP negotiation was formulated to achieve balanced outcomes, balancing ambitions with addressing domestic sensitivities, including of the agriculture and other sectors.

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RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2145  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06th DECEMBER, 2019

DRAFT NATIONAL LOGISTIC POLICY

2145. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY

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

(a) whether the Ministry has prepared draft National Logistic Policy for commerce and trade;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether it is aimed at reducing the high transaction cost of traders;
(d) if so, to what extent;
(e) how does it compare with that of other developed countries; and
(f) steps aimed at simplification of documentation for exports and import and digitization of processes in customs and other statutory procedures?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c): Yes Sir. The vision of the proposed policy is to drive economic growth and business competitiveness of the country through an integrated, seamless, efficient, reliable, green, sustainable and cost effective logistics network leveraging best in class technology, processes and skilled manpower.

(d) & (e) While, there is no official estimation of logistics cost for India, some private institutions have estimated the logistics cost to be 13 to 14 percent of the GDP. The proposed policy aims to reduce this to 9 -10 percent of the GDP.

(f): In order to simplify documentation for exports and imports through digitization, Department of Revenue, CBIC have taken several initiatives like (i) SWIFT (Single Window Interface For Trade) (ii) Adoption of Digital Signature (iii) 24x7 Customs Clearance – for ‘facilitated’ Bills of Entry and factory stuffed containers and goods exported under free Shipping Bills at select ports (iv) Import Data Processing and Management System (IDPMS) – jointly launched with RBI to facilitate efficient data processing for payment of imports and effective monitoring (v) E-Sanchit (vi) Two new IT Modules ICEDASH i.e (Ease of doing business monitoring dashboard) and ATITHI app for electronic filing by passengers for baggage (vii) PCS 1X which is a platform for port related processes developed by Indian Ports Association.

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TRADE AGREEMENTS SIGNED BETWEEN INDIA AND CHINA

2146(H). SHRI MOTILAL VORA

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

(a) the number of agreements signed between India and China during the recent visit of the President of China to India;
(b) the value of import and export that would be done through these agreements;
(c) the steps taken by Government to maintain the balance of export-import between the two countries; and
(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b): No agreements were signed between India and China during the recent visit of the President of People’s Republic of China to India for the 2nd Informal Summit.

(c) & (d): Government of India has been taking continuous and sustained steps to bridge the trade deficit by lowering trade barriers for Indian exports to China. In this regard various meetings have been held at the official level with Chinese counterparts as a part of our ongoing efforts, to obtain market access for various Indian agricultural, dairy, and pharmaceutical products etc. in light of the potential of these products in the Chinese market. Various protocols have been signed to facilitate export of Indian rice, rapeseed meal, tobacco and fishmeal / fish oil, chilli meal, from India to China. A workshop was jointly conducted by National Medical Products Administration China, and Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation India, with the objective to train Indian Pharma exporters on the updated regulatory practices of China, on 21st June 2019, at Shanghai, China.

The Government of India has also taken various measures to extend support to exporters by facilitating Buyers Seller meets between potential Chinese importers and Indian exporters to increase exports of sugar, oil meals, Indian rice, grapes, marine products etc. In addition, Indian exporters are encouraged to participate in major trade fairs in China, to showcase Indian products.

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