

- (a) whether the Government have taken any decision for allowing the import of selective consumer goods;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government have laid down any terms and conditions for such import; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and its impact on the domestic production particularly on the small scale sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). Under the current Export and Import Policy, 1992-97, consumer goods appear in Part-II of the Negative List of Imports. Their import is not permitted except against an import licence or in accordance with a Public Notice issued in this behalf. However, import of certain specified consumer goods is permitted either freely or against transferable special import licences.

Review of the Export and Import policy is an on-going process and while making changes in it, all relevant aspects, including impact on the small scale sector are always kept in view.

Economic reforms in States

274. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the State Governments have come forward to implement the economic reforms at State level for overall improvement of economy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government or Reserve Bank of India have issued directions to the State Governments for implementing the economic reforms;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the response of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). In recent years, many State Governments have started undertaking procedural as well as policy reforms at the grass root level particularly for the implementation of new industrial policies.

(c) to (e). The Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India maintain close interactions with State Governments on various aspects of economic and financial policies. Such interactions have continued in the period of economic reforms over the past few years.

Export Zones

- *275. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified strategic locations/zones/centres housing manufacturers of exportable products for developing infrastructure to boost exports;

(b) if so, the details and particulars of the zones/centres identified and the criteria for selection thereof;

(c) whether the Government have recently received the approval from the Planning Commission for liasoning with the concerned State Governments for development with infrastructure in the selected zones/centres;

(d) if so, the progress made so far in this regard; and

(e) the estimated percentage increase in exports envisaged by the development of the aforesaid zones/centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The Ministry of Commerce is in the process of indentifying various centres in different States/Union Territories which could be recommended under a proposed Export Intensive Area Scheme. The idea is to take up schemes for improving the physical infrastructure for strategic de-bottlenecking at these centres with a view to enhancing export-production capability.

(c) Planning Commission have suggested during discussions that concerned State Governments may be advised to include schemes related to strategic de-bottlenecking in their Export-intensive areas, as a part of their Plan proposals which could be considered by Planning Commission on merits.

(d) and (e). The concerned State Governments have been advised accordingly. Further progress is awaited.

[Translation]

Export to South Africa

- *276. SHRI RAM PAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of export made to South Africa during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of main items exported;

(c) whether the Government have achieved the targets fixed in this regard; and

(d) the amount of foreign exchange likely to be earned through this export during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE : (SHRI. P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The value of export and the main items exported to South Africa during the last three years are as under :