GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1466 TO BE ANSWERED ON 15/12/2023

RESTRICTED IMPORT OF LAPTOPS

1466. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has imposed import restrictions on laptops, tablets and certain types of computers due to security reasons, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether as per International Data Corporation (IDC) data, the consumer sector has witnessed a growth of 26.3 percent over the last year; and

(c) if so, whether the prices of laptops will not become higher due to ban on imports and in what manner the Indian manufacturing companies will meet this demand, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) The Government has operationalized the Import Management System (IMS) for specified Information Technology (IT) hardware such as laptops, tablets etc. This is primarily aimed at addressing security concerns, by encouraging imports from trusted sources and through local production.

(b) International Data Corporation (IDC) is a private data provider. There are no specific inputs in regard to the data provided by them.

(c) The price of laptops will not be higher, as the firms can continue to import the given IT Hardware after obtaining an import authorisation. Further, as per industry estimates only 30% IT Hardware manufacturing capacity is utilized in India. Further, Government of India on 29.05.2023 has launched the PLI Scheme 2.0 for IT Hardware. This PLI Scheme aims to promote large scale manufacturing of Laptops, Tablets, All-in-One PCs, Servers, and Ultra Small Form Factor (USFF) devices. With the impact of PLI Scheme 2.0 for IT Hardware, it is expected that there will be more IT hardware manufacturing capacity in India, to meet the consumer demand.