RAJYA SABHA

[4 December, 2001]

			(Qty in Tons)
Description	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Almonds fresh or dried in shell (0802)	1100)16673	8 17632	24367
Shelled almonds fresh or dried (0802)	1200) 2763	2726	3747

(b) and (c) Almond is mainly being imported from Australia, Iran and USA. Afghanistan constituted only less than 10% of India's imports of almonds during the last two years. The Afghanistan war is, therefore, not likely to have any serious impact on the almond trade

SEZ in Saurashtra, Gujarat

†1539. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any applications from the Government of Gujarat/Members of Parliament and other Organizations to setup Special Economic Zones (SEZ) in the Saurashtra area;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the decision taken by Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) to (c) A Special Economic Zone is already functional in Kandla in Kutch region. Further, approval has been given for setting up of a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) at Positra in Saurashtra on the basis of proposal received from M/s Gujarat Positra Port Infrastructure Ltd. and supported by the Government of Gujarat. There is no other proposal pending with the Central Government for setting up of any other SEZ in Saurashtra region of Gujarat.

Special export promotion package

1540. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a special export promotion package for exporters has been announced after August, 2001;

(b) whether it consists of any measures to promote export of marine products, spices and rubber;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.