

velopment Board has offered to export Indian goods as reported in the 'Economic Times' dated the 24th October, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what efforts have been made by various Export Promotion Councils and Boards to increase exports; and

(d) whether any delegations' missions are proposed to be sent abroad to explore new trade outlets during the Seventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Government have not received any such officer.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Various steps like improvement in quality standards, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, conducting market surveys, exchange of commercial delegation etc. are being undertaken by the various Export Promotion Councils and Boards to increase exports of commodities and iteras.

(d) Yes, Sir.

#### Dry Port at Ahmedabad

2013. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an internal Container Depot or a Dry Port is likely to start operating shortly at Ahmedabad;

(b) when it is likely to start operations;

(c) whether the location for the Dry Dock has been finalised; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) It has been proposed to locate an Inland Container Depot at Ahmedabad. The modalities of and the schedules for establishing the facility have not been decided.

(c) and (d) A site in Thaltej Village near Ahmedabad has been identified as a possible location.

#### Export of agricultural and industrial goods

2014. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to improve the export of agricultural commodities and industrial goods in the country during the current financial year;

(b) whether Government have had any negotiation with the industrially developing countries for export of finished product from India; and

(c) if so, what are the details of incentives being given by Government to export-oriented industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) A number of steps have been taken during the current financial year for improving the export of agricultural and industrial goods. These include:

#### Agriculture:

(i) Setting up of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority and Spices Board.

(ii) Special charter arrangements for export of mangoes to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia during the mango season.