

Setting up of Free Trade Zone at Visakhapatnam

248. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the Free Trade Zones set up by Government so far;

(b) whether Government are aware that some Members of Parliament from Andhra Pradesh had submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister in May last stressing the necessity for setting up a Free Trade Zone at Visakhapatnam; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) I. There are two existing and functioning export processing Zones;

(1) Santacruz Electronics Export Processing Zones, Bombay.

(2) Kandla, Free Trade Zone Gandhidham. Four new Zones are in the process of being established;

(1) Falta Export Processing Zone, Falta (West Bengal).

(2) Madras Export Processing Zone, Madras.

(3) Cochin Export Processing Zone, Cochin.

(4) NOIDA Export Processing Zone, NOIDA (U.P.).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Due to resources constraints, it has not been feasible so far to include any new export processing zone scheme in the 7th Five Year Plan programme. In case it is decided to have any other new Zones the claim of Visakhapatnam would be considered alongwith other proposals.

Proposal to Build up New Hotels under Joint Sector Management

249. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the India Tourism Development Corporation is proposing to enter into joint sector management with various north-eastern States and Union Territories to build up new hotels for the tourists;

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

(c) what steps are being taken at present to boost tourism in that region?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) Under its Joint Venture Scheme ITDC has decided to set up the following hotels in the North-eastern States/Union Territories:—

(1) One 50-roomed 3-star hotel at Guwahati at an estimated cost of Rs. 195 lakhs in collaboration with the State Government of Assam.

(2) One 20-roomed 1-2 star hotel at Itanagar at an estimated cost of Rs. 80 lakhs in collaboration with Arunachal Pradesh Industrial Development and Financial Corporation Limited.

(c) Various important tourist spots in the North-Eastern region have been duly publicised through brochures, pamphlets, directories, folders maps, etc. Some steps to improve tourist infrastructure at some places in the region are under contemplation.

Assessment of States Budgetary Position

250. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have made any assessment about the States' budgetary position;