

(d) the details of the Special Economic Zones at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) No, Sir. No decision has been taken yet.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) In the Export and Import Policy (1997—2002) incorporating amendments made upto 31st March, 2000, Government has announced a Policy for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in the country for promotion of exports. SEZs can be set up in the public, private, joint sector or by the State Governments. There is no proposal to set up any new SEZ by the Central Government. However, some of the existing EPZs are proposed to be converted into SEZs. The criteria kept in view while locating SEZs include proximity to sea/airport, availability of basic infrastructural facilities like roads, power and water supply, banking, communications facilities and access to social infrastructure such as housing, health and educational facilities. SEZs are yet to become operational.

Admission of SC/ST Candidates in PG Diploma Programme in International Trade

806. SHRI R.N. ARYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) organizes course of PG Diploma Programme in International Trade;

(b) if so, the total number of persons enrolled for the above course during the last five years and persons belonging to the SCs/STs among them and their percentage as compared to the total number; and

(c) the reasons, if adequate number of persons have not been enrolled for the above course?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) organised 6-month courses leading to Post Graduate Diploma in International Trade till the year 1997-98 and has discontinued organising this course thereafter. The main programme organised by IIFT currently is a two-years Masters Programme in International Business.

(b) The details of total number of students enrolled in the six month courses till the year 1997-98 and those belonging to SC/ST alongwith their percentage

is enclosed at statement. (See below). In addition the total number of persons enrolled in the two years Masters Programme in International Business during the last five years and persons belonging to SC/ST and their percentage to the total number is given at Statement-II (See below).

(c) The admission to the programmes are based on open competition through a detailed admission process and only those students who clear this process are admitted to the course. Seats are not only reserved for SC/ST candidates but even the cut-off point is lowered for these candidates.

Statement-I

Year	Total No. of Students	SC/ST	
		Number	%
1995-1996	40	1	2.5
1996-97	43	2	4.65
1997-98	29	1	3.44

Statement-II

Year	Total No. of Participants	SC/ST	
		Number	%
1996—1998	97	11	11.34
1997—1999	82	13	15.85
1998—2000	78	11	14.10
1999—2001	91	14	15.30
2000—2002	92	11	11.95

Modifications in Special Industrial Policy for North-East

807. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the issues on which various State Governments have pleaded for modification in the Special Industrial Policy for the North-East;

(b) the action taken on the same;

(c) whether existing industries survived in the region since long outside