

(b) No import of foodgrains (Rice and Wheat) has taken place during the last three years to meet the Central Pool requirements.

(c) The Government had launched a Centrally sponsored scheme on 'National Food Security Mission' (NFSM) from Rabi crop season, 2007-08 which includes NFSM-Rice and NFSM-wheat as major components. The aim of the Mission was to increase production of rice, wheat and pulses and enhance farm level economy to restore confidence of farmers indulging rice, wheat and pulses production. In addition, Government provides financial subsidy to farmers for purchase of various agricultural and horticultural tools and equipments under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA).

Government has also increased the Minimum Support Price for various agricultural products including rice to incentives the farmers for production of agricultural products. As per the data issued by Department of Agricultural and Cooperation, the production of rice has increased from 96.69 Million MT to 104.32 Million MT (estimated) during the period of 2007-08 to 2011-12. The production of wheat has increased from 78.57 Million MT to 93.9 Million MT (estimated) during the same period.

Sops to set up units in NIMZs

2022. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI:

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to give many sops to those who set up units in the defined National Industrial Manufacturing Zones (NIMZs);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has asked the State Governments to provide land banks for such zones; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and their response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) and (b) The National Manufacturing Policy contains dispensations to facilitate manufacturing industry both in the National and Manufacturing Zones (NIMZs) and for manufacturing industry in the country as a whole including wherever manufacturing units are able to organize themselves in clusters as stipulated in the policy. These dispensations include *inter-alia* an exit mechanism; subsidy for technology acquisition and production of green technology; token incentives for adoption of clean manufacturing practices; skill development initiatives by the private sector; finance for small and medium enterprises; and for creation of physical and institutional infrastructure.

(c) and (d) The States have been requested to identify land banks for setting up of the National Investment and Manufacturing Zones. The Government has received proposals for setting up NIMZs from Governments of Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh.

Setting up IT SEZ in Assam

2023. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up IT Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) As per the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005, a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) may be established either jointly or severally by the Central Government, State Governments or any person for manufacture of goods or rendering services or for both or as a Free Trade and Warehousing Zone. Proposals for setting up of SEZs are considered by the Board of Approval only after written consent of the concerned State Government. SEZs being set up under the Act are primarily private investment driven. No proposal for setting up an IT special Economic Zone in Assam has been received.