

Permanent office of DGFT at Vijayawada, A.P.

1310. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to set up a permanent office of Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) The Government has decided to open a new office of DGFT at Vijayawada in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The new office would have under its jurisdiction the following eight districts – Krishna, Guntur, Prakasam, SPSR Nellore, Chittoor, Kadapa, Anantapur and Kurnool.

Steps to boost SEZs in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh

1311. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is not much progress of the 43 Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Telangana and 26 SEZs in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof, and reasons therefor and the present status of each SEZs; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to boost the SEZs in both the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) In addition to Visakhapatnam Special Economic Zone (SEZ) set up by the Central Government prior to the enactment of SEZs Act, 2005, presently, 25 and 43 SEZs are notified in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana respectively. Out of these notified SEZs, 19 SEZs in Andhra Pradesh and 26 SEZs in Telangana are operational. A Statement showing list of notified SEZs in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) In order to boost the SEZs located in both the States, periodical meetings with the developers are organised to address their issues. Further, road shows are also organised from time to time to promote the SEZ Scheme.