

banks have been advised to utilise the same expeditiously. Proposals for opening more bank offices in Azamgrah district will be considered by Reserve Bank of India in the light of the branch licensing policy for the Seventh Five Year Plan period which is being finalised.

[English]

Plan to boost exports and location of functional centre

727. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have seen a news-items published in 'the Hindustan Times' dated 22-6-1985 under the caption "Action Plan to boost export";

(b) if so, the break up of the target so fixed to boost exports;

(c) the names and locations of the functional centres i.e. export processing zones and what will be feeding capacity of each zone;

(d) whether some functional centres are proposed to be located in Andhra Pradesh, if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof;

(e) the names of the countries to which these items will be exported together with the value of each item; and

(f) the details of incentives to be given to exporters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) The export target for the year 1985-86 is fixed at Rs. 11736 crores. The target for the non-oil exports for 1985-86 is Rs. 11266 crores.

(c) to (f) In addition to two existing Free Trade Zones at Kandla and Santacruz in Bombay, four new Zones at Madras, Falta (West Bengal), Cochin and NOIDA (U.P.) are being set up. Performance of these four Zones would be watched before establishment of any

further new Zone, including in Andhra Pradesh. During 1984-85, units in Kandla Free Trade Zones exported goods worth Rs 236 crores (approx.) and the Santacruz Electronics Export Processing Zone Rs. 95.80 crores. The units in Export Processing Zones are free to export their finished products to any country. The units in Export Processing Zones are entitled to several benefits such as duty free import of capital goods and raw materials and tax holiday.

Introduction of tobacco auction system in Andhra Pradesh

728. SHRI V. TULSI RAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to introduce tobacco auction system in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the extent to which it will be helpful to the farmers and tobacco growers in the State;

(c) the time by which this system is expected to be introduced; and

(d) the extent to which it will be an improvement in the existing system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d) The auction system for sale of virginia Tobacco in Andhra Pradesh was introduced from 1983 marketing season in stage through 21 auction platforms set up by the Tobacco Board spread over 8 districts. A quantity of about 90 million Kgs. of Virginia tobacco valued at around Rs. 93 crores was sold through auction in this state.

The auction system has ensured payment to the growers within a reasonable time by the Tobacco Board themselves. Earlier, the traders and middle-men used to take long time to make payments to the growers.