

delegation for trade talks, as such visited Tanzania in 1986 and 1987 so far,

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Panel to review textile research

2796. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR :
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government for setting up a high powered Panel to review the working of Textile Research and to prepare comprehensive long term plan to strengthen the industry;

(b) if so, the composition of the Panel and its terms of reference; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to submit its report to Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The proposal is still under examination.

Augmenting export of farm products

2797. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR :
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether Government propose to draw up any policy for augmenting export of agricultural/horticultural/floricultural products;

(b) if so, what items and which areas have been selected for intensive development for promotion of export; and

(c) the machinery for evaluation of foreign markets and liaisoning to boost export of the above mentioned products ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) Export of agricultural and horticultural products has already been identified as thrust areas for export. In respect of floricultural products, our exports at the present moment are very small on account of production and quality

problem and do not meet the specifications and requirements of the international market.

(b) Export of processed foods including fresh fruit and Vegetables has been identified as a thrust area. The thrust market identified for intensive development are mainly in gulf and middle East Countries:

(c) The agricultural and processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has been set up provide institutional framework for an integrated export development of agricultural and horticultural products. APEDA is engaged in evaluation of foreign markets and dissemination of information to exporters of these items.

Appraisal of Export-Processing Zones

2798. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :
SHRI C. SAMBU :
SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating to set up Export Processing Zone (EPZ) at Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the six existing Export Processing Zones in the country have been successful;

(c) if not the reasons for setting up Vishakhapatnam Export Processing Zone, and

(d) what infrastructure is required for setting up an Export Processing Zone ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) The possibility of establishing an Export Processing Zone at Vishakhapatnam is being explored.

(b) Based on the success of the Kandla Free Trade Zone which was established in 1965 and the Santacruz Electronic Export Processing Zone that was set up in 1975 Government decided to establish 4 more EPZ's. These zones are under construction