

conducted by the UPSC, their cases will be considered by the UPSC provided they possess the requisite qualifications and experience and do not exceed 45 years of the age (50 years in the case of disabled ex-Servicemen belonging to SC/ST). They will be accorded first priority provided they are found suitable by the Commission;

- (b) through competitive examinations held by the UPSC provided they are educationally qualified. They are eligible for age concession up to 3 years (upto 8 years in the case of SC/ST).

3.4 As regards medical standards, the orders provide that a certificate of fitness granted by the Demobilisation Medical Board would be considered adequate for the purpose of employment of such personnel in Group 'A' to Group 'D' posts.

3.5 In respect of IPKF casualties, as a special dispensation, Government have issued 'guidelines' to various Central Government Departments and Public Sector Undertakings to provide priority for employment to be given to disabled personnel for employment under Government over other normal cases of ex-Servicemen, against vacancies reserved for ex-Servicemen.

[English]

Free Trade Zone at Visakapatnam

*139. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the time schedule for commissioning of the Free Trade Zone at Visakhapatnam;

(b) the progress made so far in this regard;

(c) whether the progress in developing the Free Trade Zone is slow;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (e). The basic internal infrastructure of the Zone is likely to be completed in the next financial year.

Development works could only be initiated after a compact block of land was made available in March, 1991. A quicker pace of development would be possible with the provision of additional funds this year. The progress achieved so far is as under:-

1. Land for the Zone has been acquired and the Zone Administration has taken possession of 360.51 acres of land.
2. The Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (APIIC) has been appointed as the Model Agency for development of infrastructure inside the Zone. M/s. APIIC have prepared detailed designs of buildings and utilities and

invited pre-qualification tenders and final tenders are under preparation.

3. Work order for construction of security boundary wall has already been placed on the contractor by M/S.APIIC and the construction work has begun.
4. Some preliminary work like the following have been undertaken and are being implemented in the Zone:-
 - (i) Construction of internal roads has taken up and culvert, approach road to the culvert and another road have been completed.
 - (ii) Storm water drain to the extent of 560 mtrs. have been completed and further work is in progress.
 - (iii) To meet the initial requirements of water, tube wells inside the Zone premises have been sunk and pump houses constructed.
5. The Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation, on behalf of the State Government has prepared a scheme for supply of 1 MGD of water initially and are going to take up the work shortly.
6. The State Electricity Board has already initiated action for commissioning of 33/11 KV Sub-Station for supplying necessary power to the Zone, the work on which would be completed shortly.

Action against Companies making Excessive Profits

*140. SHREE JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take action against the companies making excessive profits by bringing them under the purview of the cost audit and by asking them to make public the cost of production of their industrial products;

(b) if so, the precise details of the action proposed to be taken in the matter;

(c) the number of companies subjected to cost audit during the last one year and the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to ensure that the producers and manufactures do not exploit the consumers at large by charging unwarranted profits?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. VJAYA BHASKARA REDDY): (a) and (b). Under Section 233B of the Companies Act, 1956 the Central Government may, by order direct that an audit of cost accounts of the company which is required to maintain cost records in the prescribed manner under Section 209 (1) (d) of the Companies Act shall be conducted by Cost Auditor. After conducting the audit, the cost auditors submit the report to the Department of Company Affairs. A copy each of the cost audit reports received from the cost auditors is sent to the Administrative Ministry concerned and the Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices for taking action on the various parameters contained in the report including excess profits, if any, made by the companies. While reviewing the cost audit report, the Department of Company Affairs also communicates relevant information to the Administrative Ministries