

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4573

ANSWERED ON:08.05.2007

SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES

Meghwal Shri Kailash;Panda Shri Prabodh;Satpathy Shri Tathagata;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to lift the freeze on the SEZ proposals across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government is considering more SEZ proposals received from the foreign investors and public sector companies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has decided to change the norms for the approval of SEZs proposals;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to meet the concerns expressed by various sections, particularly the farming community?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (d): Various issues concerning the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) policy have been considered by the Government and it has been decided that in respect of formally approved SEZs, notifications may be issued on completion of verification procedures. It has also been decided that the pending applications for SEZs may be processed for in principle & formal approvals and notifications subject to the condition that the State Governments would not undertake any compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs. These are applicable to all States and Union Territories.

(e) & (f): It has been decided to fix the upper limit of the area required for multi product SEZs at 5000 hectares with the provision that the State Governments may prescribe a lower limit. Further, it has been decided to fix the minimum processing area limit uniformly at 50% for multi product SEZs as well as sector specific SEZs.

(g) : Concerns expressed by various sections have been addressed and it has been decided that the pending applications for SEZs would be processed for approvals provided the State Governments would not undertake any compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs. Further, Ministry of Rural Development has been requested to reformulate a comprehensive Land Acquisition Act to address all relevant issues and also to work out a comprehensive Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy ensuring livelihood from the project to at least one person from each displaced family.