

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2861
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2006
CONVERSION OF EPZS INTO SEZ
Chinta Mohan Dr. ;Suman Shri Ramji Lal

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

- (a) the provisions with regard to the conversion of Export Processing Zones(EPZs) to Special Economic Zones(SEZs) in the SEZ policy alongwith the permissible grounds for conversion;
- (b) the details of the EPZs converted into SEZs including the exports made by them since their conversion;
- (c) whether the EPZs converted SEZs have been performing satisfactorily; and
- (d) if not, the steps taken to achieve the objectives for which EPZs were converted into SEZs?

Answer

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

(a)&(b) : While announcing the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) Policy as a part of the Export and Import Policy on 31st March 2000, it was also announced that some of the existing Export Processing Zones (EPZs) would be converted into SEZs. Accordingly the Government issued notifications for conversion of Kandla Free Trade Zone EPZ, Surat EPZ, Santa Cruz Electronics EPZ Mumbai and Cochin EPZ into SEZs with effect from 1st November 2000 and conversion of NOIDA EPZ, Visakapatnam EPZ, Falta EPZ and Madras EPZ into SEZs with effect from 1st January 2003. The provisions for conversion of EPZ units to SEZs were contained in the Export Import Policy. The exports made by units in these Zones from the date of conversion till 30th November, 2006 are Rs.90,214 crore.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.