GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1141 ANSWERED ON:28.11.2014 REVIEW OF SEZ AND FTA AGREEMENTS Hari Shri G.

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

(a) whether the review of Special Economic Zones and Free Trade Agreements has been delayed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes new Foreign Trade Policy to give domestic manufacturers and exporters the benefit of the revisions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): Review of functioning of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) is an on-going process and on the basis of inputs/suggestions received from stakeholders on the policy and operational framework of the SEZ Scheme, Government periodically takes necessary measures so as to facilitate speedy and effective implementation of SEZ Scheme.

Further, every Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) has a joint review mechanism which monitors the implementation of the FTA. Moreover, evaluation of FTAs is a continuous process which starts even before FTA negotiations are entered into and is done periodically, thereafter.

(c) & (d): New Foreign Trade Policy (FTP), 2014-19 has not been announced so far. Present FTP 2009-14 is in operation.