

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 698
ANSWERED ON 24/07/2026

STATUS OF SEZs IN ANDHRA PRADESH

698. SHRI MASTHAN RAO YADAV BEEDHA

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

- (a) the current number of formally approved, notified and operational Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Andhra Pradesh, along with land area utilised, investment and employment generated therein;
- (b) whether any SEZ has been approved/notified in Nellore district, if so, its land area and investment details;
- (c) the steps being taken to fast-track statutory clearances and attract investors to this SEZ, particularly in renewable energy, electronics and agro-processing sectors;
- (d) whether any Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model is being explored to accelerate core infrastructure development and industrial allotment therein; and
- (e) the timeline envisaged for full operationalisation of said SEZ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) The Department of Commerce has formally approved a total of thirty-six Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in the State of Andhra Pradesh, out of which thirty-one have been notified. Out of the notified SEZs, twenty-five are operational. As on 31.03.2026, these operational SEZs with utilised land area of 2942.18 hectares have attracted a cumulative investment of ₹48,144 crore, and generated employment for 79,523 persons.

(b) Seven SEZs have been formally approved in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh, out of which six have been notified. Out of the notified SEZs, five are operational. As on 31.03.2026, these operational SEZs have attracted a cumulative investment of ₹12,147 crore.

(c) The operationalisation of SEZs is primarily the responsibility of the respective SEZ Developers and the respective State Governments as well. The Central Government's statutory clearances are done through the Board of Approval for SEZs which approves the proposals on a fast-track basis. It also facilitates expeditious procedural clearances within its jurisdiction through a single-window mechanism in the SEZs which is monitored by the respective

Development Commissioners. Investment in specific sectors, including renewable energy, electronics and agro-processing, is driven by market demand and the business plans of the developers and units.

The Government has also vide notification dated 3rd June 2025, carried out key amendments to the SEZ Rules, 2006 to address the unique requirements of semiconductor and electronics components manufacturing SEZs, including reduction in minimum land requirement from 50 hectares to 10 hectares. Pursuant to this, seven new SEZs for semiconductor and electronics component manufacturing have been approved by this Ministry.

(d) and (e) The setting up of SEZs are primarily private investment driven initiatives. SEZs may be established either jointly or severally by the Central Government, State Governments or any person, under the SEZ Act, 2005 and SEZ Rules, 2006. Proposals for setting up SEZs are considered by the Board of Approval constituted under the SEZ Act, 2005 only after they have been duly recommended by the concerned State Government. Since the enactment of the SEZ Act, 2005, the Central Government has not established any SEZ. Further, the Central Government does not provide financial assistance for the establishment of SEZs.

The operationalisation of an SEZ depends on the completion of the required infrastructure, obtaining of necessary statutory approvals and fulfilment of the prescribed conditions by the concerned Developer. Further, the SEZ Rules, 2006 provide an initial timeline of 3 years for operationalisation of an approved SEZ. The Rules also have provisions for extension of timeline for operationalisation by the Board of Approval for SEZs. The Development Commissioner also handholds developers for completing the required infrastructure, obtaining statutory approvals and fulfilment of the prescribed conditions for becoming an SEZ operational.
