

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:98  
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2008  
AGRO EXPORT ZONES AEZS  
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) the details of the location where Agro Export Zones (AEZs) are functioning alongwith its activities in the country; State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has undertaken any study on the performance of the proposed 60 Agro Export Zones(AEZs) in 20 States;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a): The 60 Agri Export Zones (AEZs) envisage development and sourcing of the raw material, its processing/packaging, leading to final exports of their respective products drawing assistance from the ongoing schemes of Central and State Governments to take care of their financial requirements at various stages of value chain. These AEZs have generated an investment of Rs. 1097.53 crore and exports of Rs. 10669.02 crore. Details of the AEZs in the country are given in the Annexure.

(b)&(c) A peer evaluation of the existing AEZs was carried out with a view to ascertain the reasons for shortfall in their performance and to suggest a remedial action plan. The review revealed that the AEZ were not able to make headway, mainly, owing to lack of :

- (i) project orientation in their conceptual design;
- (ii) awareness amongst the field functionaries about the concept of AEZs ;
- (iii) effective agency to coordinate with other implementing agencies and monitor the performance of the AEZs; and
- (iv) effective public participation.

The main elements of the remedial action plan are setting up of institutional administrative mechanism for coordinating and monitoring the progress of implementation of AEZs and short listing of a few AEZs for special focus for their revival as well as to make them model AEZs.

(d) & (e) Do not arise.