

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2536  
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2014  
AGRI EXPORT ZONES  
Jena Shri Rabindra Kumar

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

- (a) the details of works carried out by Agri Export Zones (AEZs) to promote trade, improve quality and increase productivity of the products during the last three years and the current year, State/ UT-wise;
- (b) the contribution of AEZs in export of commodities indicating quantum and value of export carried through these zones during the said period, State, country and product-wise; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to boost performance of these zones to increase export of the country?

**Answer**

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

(a to c) The concept of Agri Export Zone (AEZ) was initiated by the Government of India in the year 2001 under Chapter – 16 of Exim Policy. The objective behind the notification of AEZ was to focus on potential products from the export perspective and address critical issues in creation of exportable quantity and quality and to synergize the use of all available resources and logistics from central and state sector schemes in existence. 60 AEZs in 20 States were notified by the Government till 2005. APEDA had signed MoUs with state governments defining the commitments of state governments for implementation of AEZ. The Ministry of Commerce & Industry set up a Peer Review group to look into the performance of AEZs in December 2004. It was decided not to consider notification of any new AEZs unless there are strong compelling reasons. Therefore, the Government has not notified any new AEZs during the last three years and the current year. The data regarding exports from AEZs is not available. However the export of APEDA scheduled products has increased from Rs. 83485 crores during 2011-12 to Rs. 136920 crores during 2013-14