

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1276

ANSWERED ON:18.07.2014

AGRI EXPORT ZONES

Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) the details of existing Agri-Export Zones in the country along with the products included thereunder, product and State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has received proposals from the States for setting up of more such zones and inclusion of more products including rubber thereunder;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the funds allocated to such zones during each of the last three years and the current year along with their performance during the said period?

Answer

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

(a) The details of existing 60 Agri Export Zones (AEZs) set up in different parts of the country, product and State/UT-wise are at Annexure - I.

(b to d) A peer evaluation of the existing AEZs was carried out in 2005 to assess the performance of AEZs. Some of the important findings of the peer evaluation include i) Lack of ownership by Government Authority and their Agencies, ii) Lack of awareness about the scheme and its conceptual framework among stakeholders including State Government field establishments, iii) Lack of project orientation in the conceptual design of AEZ, iv) Lack of coordination/ monitoring system in AEZs, v) Non materialization of adequate public investment from Central and State Governments, vi) indiscreet proliferation of AEZs etc. On the basis of the recommendations of the Peer Group in 2005, it was decided not to consider notification of new AEZs unless there were strong compelling reasons.

Accordingly, no proposal for setting up of new AEZ has been agreed to.