

**Title:** Need to set up office of the Special Economic Zone in Hassan, Karnataka.

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA (HASSAN): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, three years ago, the Centre declared to set up four special economic zones in Karnataka. But not even a single special economic zone has been set up so far.

The people of Hassan, particularly the farmers, were very hopeful about the special economic zone. In Hassan, many vegetables and flowers are grown. Fruits like mangoes, grapes, sapota, etc., are grown abundantly and coconut, cashew and coffee are also grown in large quantities. Spices like cloves, cardamom and others are grown by most of the farmers. These commodities have to be exported as there is a great demand for all those from European, American and Arab countries. The export of these commodities is in jeopardy as there is no special economic zone in Hassan even though the Centre has announced to set up one such zone in Hassan three years ago.

There is no office of this special economic zone in Hassan. Officers and other employees have not been appointed till today. All infrastructural facilities are available in Hassan. Strangely, these facilities are not being utilised by the Centre to set up a special economic zone there.

I, therefore, urge upon the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Commerce to set up the above-mentioned special economic zone in Hassan without any further delay.