

EU ban on vegetables exported from India

1071. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that European Union (EU) has finally lifted ban on exports of Alphonso mango from India;

(b) what are the reasons that ban on four vegetables—bitter gourd, brinjal, snake gourd and taro plant has not been lifted; and

(c) what efforts the Ministry is making to lift ban on vegetables by EU?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Yes Sir, ban imposed by European Union (EU) on Indian Mangoes has been lifted in Feb., 2015.

(b) and (c) India has put in place special inspection units for export of fresh fruit and vegetables to European Union in April, 2014. European Commission's Food and Veterinary Office team visited India in September 2014 to verify our improved controlled systems. The issue of lifting ban on four vegetables has been taken up bilaterally with the European Commission.

Objectives for creating SEZs

1072. SHRI GARIKAPATI MOHAN RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives behind creating Special Economic Zones (SEZs) along with presently functioning SEZs in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether Government proposes to approve new SEZs in the backward districts of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana States; and

(c) the initiatives taken by Government to develop industrially backward districts of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and the incentives given to the backward districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are notified in the country with the objectives of generating additional economic activity, promoting exports of goods and services; promoting investment from domestic and foreign sources; creating employment opportunities; and developing infrastructure facilities for manufacture of goods and services. A list showing the State/UT-wise number of exporting SEZs is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) While backward regions are not defined under Special Economic Zones (SEZs) Act, 2005 and Rules framed there under, however, Rule 5(2) of the SEZ Rules, 2006 prescribes a lower minimum built up area requirement in respect of the SEZs (other than Information Technology and Information Technology Enabled Services SEZs) located in B1 and B2 category cities as per classification indicated in Annexure IV of the SEZ Rules. Further, the said Rules prescribe a lower minimum built up area requirement in respect of Information Technology and Information Technology Enabled Services SEZs located in 'B' and 'C' category cities as per classification indicated in Annexure IVA of the SEZ Rules. In terms of SEZ Act, 2005, a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) may be set up either jointly or severally by the Central Government, State Government or any person for manufacture of goods or rendering services or for both or as a free trade warehousing zone. Such proposals duly recommended by the concerned State Government are considered by the Board of Approval for SEZs.

Statement

State/UT-wise distribution of exporting SEZs

State/UT	Exporting SEZs (as on 31.12.2014)
Andhra Pradesh	19
Chandigarh	2
Chhattisgarh	1
Gujarat	18
Haryana	6
Karnataka	25
Kerala	14
Madhya Pradesh	2
Maharashtra	25
Odisha	2
Punjab	2
Rajasthan	4
Tamil Nadu	36
Telangana	25
Uttar Pradesh	11
West Bengal	7
GRAND TOTAL	199