

Evaluation of Agri Export Zones in Andhra Pradesh

*118. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Agri Export Zones (AEZs) notified in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the performance of AEZs in Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) whether it is a fact that evaluation of AEZs was carried out in 2005 and since then no evaluation has been done;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether all the findings of 2005 evaluation have been implemented; and
- (f) if not, the detailed reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) The details of Agri Export Zones (AEZs) notified in former Andhra Pradesh (including Telangana), along-with the dates of their notification, details of investments and exports from these AEZs upto February, 2013 (last available details with APEDA), are as under:-

(₹ in crore)

AEZ Project	District	Date of Notification	Actual Exports	Actual Investments
Mango Pulp and Fresh Vegetables	Chittoor District	8th March, 2002	2736.03	91.40
Mango and Grapes	Districts of Ranga Reddy, Medak and Parts of Mahabob Nagar Districts.	5th June, 2002	18.29	57.21
Mango	Krishna District.	13th Sept. 2002	2.75	17.90
Gherkins	Districts of Mahboobnagar, Rangareddy, Karimnagar, Warangal, Medak Ananthapur and Nalgonda.	14th May, 2003	82.50	20.05
Chilli	Guntur	14th January, 2005	51.00	20.32
TOTAL			2890.57	206.88

Source: APEDA

All the above notified AEZ's have completed span of five years. Since then the State Government has not reported any activity including investment and exports in the notified five AEZ's.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (f) 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. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) had signed MoUs with State Governments defining the commitments of State Governments for implementation of AEZ. The Ministry of Commerce and 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 and no new AEZs have been set-up after 2004. As on March, 2012, all the 60 AEZs in 20 States have completed their intended span of 5 years.

Maternity leave in unorganized sector

*119. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to enact any law to provide for maternity leave in unorganized sector;

(b) whether any draft Bill is proposed to be introduced in the ensuing session of Parliament;

(c) if so, the essential features of the law; and

(d) whether facility of working from home is proposed to be included in the legislation or in any other legislation on the subject, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir. However, Maternity Benefit Act is applicable in establishments employing 10 or more persons.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise in view of the reply above.