

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4034
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2003
TRANSPORT ASSISTANCE FOR HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS
RAMESH CHENNITHALA

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

- (a) whether the horticultural products and processed foods by sea and which covered under the Agricultural Export Zone for Kerala and included in MoU signed with Agricultural Products and Economic Development Authority have not been included in the list of items eligible for transport assistance;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action taken to rectify the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a): The products under the Agricultural Export Zone (AEZ) set up in the State of Kerala which are eligible for Sea Freight Assistance in the present scheme for Transport Assistance are banana and processed pineapple. The other ethnic vegetables like bitter gourd, snake gourd, drumstick, tapioca, cowpea etc. for which AEZ has been launched in Kerala are not included in the list of eligible items.

(b)&(c): The scheme of Transport Assistance under the 10th Plan Scheme has been approved for certain agricultural products keeping in view the disadvantages to the exporters on account of freight cost or non tariff barriers. The present scheme is likely to be reviewed through a study in April-June, 2004.