

Removal of Port restriction for 9 (nine) more products for Export through Agartala -Akhura Integrated Check Post and Srimantapur Land Customs Station(LCS).

The import-export trade of Tripura is mainly with Bangladesh. Presently, there are 8 notified Land Customs (LC) Stations, namely, Agartala, Srimantapur, Muhurighat, Khowaighat, Dhalaighat, Manughat, Old Ragnabazar and Sabroom. The Agartala Land Custom Station has been upgraded to Integrated Check Post (ICP). The total volume of trade has increased manifold from a meager Rs. 4.12 crores during 1995-96 to about Rs. 537.08 crores during 2018-19, the value of import was Rs.522.42 crores and the export to Bangladesh was only Rs. 14.66 crores. The most important reason for such vast gap is the port restriction on number of commodities for export to Bangladesh through the Land Customs Station/Integrated Check Post of Tripura.

There is non-tariff barrier or port restriction on export of certain products through the Land Customs Station (LCS)/Integrated Check Post (ICP) of Tripura and only selected items are allowed by Peoples Republic of Bangladesh for import. This has resulted in a vast gap in export value as against import. This issue was taken up by the State Government with the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India for removal on port restriction of 27 (twenty Seven) Exportable items from Tripura through Land Customs Station(LCS)/Integrated Check Post (ICP) .

Out of these, in the 1st phase 7 (seven) products were allowed for export i,e Rubber(Raw), bamboo products(including sticks for Agarbati manufacturing), Arjun Flower (broom), CNG spares, Soya bean Seed, maize, Stone bolder.

The issue was recently raised during the visit of Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh to India on 5th October, 2019. Subsequently, on 1st December 2019 Government of Bangladesh has issued Gazette notification allowing 9(nine) more products viz Cashew nut, Paper, Sugar, Generator, Broken glass, Chocolate, Baby wiper, Confectionary, Bitumin for export to Bangladesh through the Agartala ICP and Srimantapur LCS.

The State Government is constantly pursuing for removal of Port restriction for all the commodities being produced in Tripura and also those items having good demand in Bangladesh.