Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Tamil Nadu Horticulture Development Agency, (TANHODA), Chennai for setting up of IQF Plant at State Horticulture Farm, Jeenur, Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu. The total project cost is Rs. Rs. 961.63 lakhs wherein APEDA’s contribution will be Rs. 742.00 lakhs.

Mr. Santosh Sarangi, IAS, Chairman, APEDA and Mr. L. Sitherasenan, IAS, Managing Director, TANHODA inked the MoU documents on 20.08.2014 in the presence of Senior Officers from both sides.

Krishnagiri district is a hub of horticulture produce where fruits and vegetables are grown extensively round the year. The proposed facility will be used by the exporters who are presently in the trading of mango and mango related products to a greater extent. Other fruits like papaya, guava and vegetables like capsicum, cauliflower, potato grown in the district may also get processed and exported. Krishnagiri is near to Chennai port which is favourable for export to countries in Middle East, Canada, Malaysia and USA. Many major processors are presently sourcing raw material from Krishnagiri and most of them do not have their own IQF facility but engage third party facilities. TANHODA will lease out the plant for operation to an agency selected through State Level Expression of Interest. The operating agency will undertake processing of produce on job work basis and promote the brand for Krishnagiri mangoes, fruits and vegetables.

The major infrastructure created under project is as under:

- Fruit Processing Line
- Deep Freeze store (500 MTX2)
- IQF line 1.5 MT/hr
- Blast freezing 1000 KG/hr
- Other ancillary infrastructure

Export Projections after Commissioning:
Year -1 = 3933 MT
Year -2 = 3933 MT
Year -3 = 4370 MT
Year -4 = 4370 MT
Year -5 = 5344 MT