Sir/Madam,

Sub: Export Promotion Conference cum International Buyer Seller Meet at Gangtok on 21 st and 22nd November 2019

Sikkim the landlocked state located in the Himalayan mountains, is a mystic land endorsed by nature with panoramic perfection. It is one of the fertile lands of India, with rich biodiversity and serene agro-climatic conditions. In Jan 2016, the state was officially declared as the fully "organic state of India", with all its farmland certified organic in compliance with National Program for Organic Production (NPOP) and National Organic Program (NOP) standards. The state also won the FAO's Future Policy Award 2018, for implementing the world's best policies for promoting agroecological and sustainable food systems.

Spices Board (Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India), always envisages and designs new strategies for promotion of usage of Indian Spices globally, so as to maintain and ensure the growth of Indian spice industry. The main criteria focused by the Board to boost the spices sector is by ensuring production of clean, safe, hygienic, and quality spices, which in turn shall attract both domestic and international consumers. The Board also takes concerted efforts to address the issues at the forefront and the back-end of the supply chain, by supporting the farmers, processors, distributors, retailers etc in collaboration with the respective State governments/line departments. The Board's interventions have helped to address multifarious aspects such as production, processing, value addition, adherence to quality and safety standards and market linkage.

The State of Sikkim with lead partnership with APEDA, is organizing a Conference cum International Buyer Seller Meet on the Agri / Horti products at Hotel Lemon Tree, Gangtok Sikkim on 21st November 2019 at 10.00 A.M. The objective of the program is to provide a platform for B2B and B2G meetings among interested stakeholders. The focus products in the event will be Large Cardamom, Ginger, Turmeric, Buckwheat, Sikkim Mandarin, vegetables, pulses and other organic agri/horti products.

The Spices Board is an operational partner for the event and is looking forward for the interests from the stakeholders of the Spices vertical. Around 150 sellers representing progressive farmers, Farmer Producers Organization, processors and traders from Sikkim and nearby areas will be participating in the event, along with buyers of national and international repute.

This will be an unique platform for the buyers to source exclusive organic products. Taking into consideration of the advantage, I cordially invite you for the Buyer Seller Meet for a possible sourcing/buying of organic produces. You may confirm the willingness to participate in the BSM by mail to slg.sbrogtk@gmail.com, with copy to phurba.lepcha@nic.in, dm.sb-ker@gov.in & nithin.joe@nic.in at the earliest with the following details:

Name & Full address of the Firm with contact no & email id:

Spices Board Exporter Regn. No (CRES):

Name & designation of the representative(s) attending with contact no & email id:

Date & time of arrival at *Siliguri / Bagdogra*:

Date & time of departure from *Siliguri / Bagdogra*:

Requirement of Accommodation: YES/NO

For outstation exporters, Spices Board will arrange for the to and fro travel from Siliguri / Bagdogra to Gangtok and accommodation at Gangtok (one single/double room per firm), if required.

For details/ enquiries, kindly contact:

Shri Phurba Tshering Lepcha, Deputy Director I/C, Spices Board Regional Office, Gangtok, 09475712966 Spices Board, Regional Office Gangtok, Sikkim, 03592-201418; 03592-202230 Shri. Jugal Das, Assistant Director, 09775995755

Dr Kuldeep Rai, SFO, 09593984163