

Quantity : in MTs.
Value : In Rs. Crores

Year	Export		Import	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1993-94	297907	263.49	4868	6.98
1994-95	1209698	256.41	4745	5.35
1995-96	228962	524.52	33249	36.17
1996-97 (April-Sept., '96)	84033	186.72	232	0.95

(Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta)

Country-wise details of imports and exports are given in the monthly bulletin/annual numbers of Foreign Trade Statistics of India published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

Under the EXIM Policy, 1992-97, imports of oilseeds were canalised through the State Trading Corporation of India Limited and Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited. However, imports of oilseeds in a limited quantity have been made by the 100% EOUs and under the Duty Exemption Scheme mainly with the purpose of export of oilmeals manufactured out of the imported oilseeds.

(d) The export projections for the Ninth Five Year Plan including the year 1997-98 have not been formulated.

[English]

Import of Coffee to Contain Prices in Domestic Market

6689. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :
SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the retail price of coffee seeds/powder has gone up in the country particularly in Karnataka and Tamilnadu;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to import coffee to contain prices in the domestic market;

(d) if so, the total quantity proposed to be imported;

(e) whether there is any proposal to bring coffee under Essential Commodities Act, 1955;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) if not, whether the Government propose to procure some quantity of coffee seeds from the planters compulsorily for supply to the Coffee Board;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Coffee Board to bring down coffee prices in the domestic market and supply coffee seeds powder through PDS to the general public in the country particularly in above States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Due to the rise in the prices of coffee in the international market, domestic prices of coffee seeds/powder have also increased throughout the country.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) to (i) With the introduction of 100% Free Sale Quota to the Planters, at present there is no proposal to procure coffee seeds from the growers. Although Coffee Board continues to supply limited quantities of popular blends through its promotional outlets, the Board can not undertake the responsibility to supply coffee through the Public Distribution system.

Trade with Pakistan

6690. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of exports and imports between India and Pakistan made during 1996-97 upto March, 31, 1997 in comparison to each of the last three years, separately;

(b) whether there has been any decline in the foreign trade;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it has been decided that India and Pakistan should increase their direct trade to increase the SAARC share in the total trade of the South Asian countries;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether Pakistan has shown willingness to reciprocate and allow her trade with India on a free and Most Favoured Nation basis; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) The latest trade figures between India and Pakistan during 1996-97 as available upto February, 97 and figures for the corresponding periods during the previous three years are as given below :-

(Value in Rs. crores)

Period	India's exports to Pakistan	India's Imports from Pakistan	Total trade
April 96-Feb. 97	511.12	124.38	635.50
April 95-Feb. 96	226.38	143.98	370.36
April 94-Feb. 95	159.65	156.52	316.17
April 93-Feb. 94	180.37	128.55	308.92

(Source : DGCI&S)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) To promote increased economic and commercial inter action in the SAARC region, member States of SAARC, including India and Pakistan have taken a number of steps which include exchange of tariff concessions, removal of non-tariff barriers, holding of trade fairs, simplification of customs procedures, improvement in transport and transit infrastructure in the SAARC region with the ultimate objective of establishing a Free Trade Area in the South Asian region by 2000 AD or at the latest by 2005 AD, of which both India and Pakistan would be beneficiaries.

(f) and (g) Pakistan has not formally responded to India's demarche for according MFN status to India.

Export of Sugar

6691.DR. T. SUBBARAMI RADDY :
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :
SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI :
SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be please to state :

(a) whether India's export has suffered during the current year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Agriculture Processed and Export Development Authority has invited tenders for the export of sugar this year;

(d) if so, the response received by APEDA in this regard :

(e) whether not a single consignment has been shipped to the international market so far particularly to the Far East Asian countries and the Middle East countries which were the major markets for the Indian sugar earlier;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to remove the difficulties faced by the exporters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) Indian exports during April-March 1996-97 are estimated at US\$ 33105.72 million which represent a growth of 4.01% over the export level valued at US \$ 31830.53 million for the same period in 1995-96.

(c) to (f) Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority issued a Trade Notice on 25.4.97 inviting applications for issue of registration-cum-allocation certificate (RCAC) for export of 1,55,658 MTs of sugar. Till 12.5.97, 18 RCAC's for export of 51243.50 MTs of sugar to Pakistan, USA, European Union, Maldives and Canada have been issued. The export destinations of sugar would depend upon international prices, international demand and supply position, consumer preferences and other terms and conditions of trade.

(g) Facilitating exports including by the removal of difficulties faced by exporters, if any, is an ongoing process. As and when specific problems are brought to notice of the Government, remedial action is initiated.