

Export of Fruits, Vegetables and Flowers

3222. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has formulated a set of schemes to achieve a growth rate of 20 to 30 per cent in the exports of fruits, vegetables and flowers during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the exports had reached new heights during the last year;

(d) if so, the total exports made during the last year and the target set for the same during the current year; and

(e) the steps taken to boost the export of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), a Commodity Board under the Ministry of Commerce is responsible for the development and export promotion of agro-based products covered by the Schedule to the APEDA Act, 1985. APEDA has formulated an Annual Action Plan for 1996-97 which stipulates a growth rate of 20 to 30 per cent during the current year over the last year in respect of export of fruits, vegetables and floriculture products (including flowers). The export targets fixed for these products for the year 1996-97 are Rs. 1294 crores as against the export performance of Rs. 1082.88 crores achieved during 1995-96. This growth rate has been fixed mainly as these are extreme focus products having large export potentials.

(c) and (d). The value of fruits, vegetables and floriculture products exported during 1994-95 and 1995-96 is as follows :

	1994-95	1995-96
	(Rs. in Crores)	
(i) Fresh Fruits	184.54	229.96
(ii) Fresh Vegetables	248.93	301.19
(iii) Processed Fruits and vegetables.	348.21	491.59
(iv) Floriculture Produce	30.83	60.14
	812.51	1082.88

The exports targets fixed for the year 1996-97 for fruits, vegetables and floriculture products are as follows:

	(Rs. in Crores)
(i) Fruits and Vegetables	650
(ii) Processed Fruits and Vegetables	569
(iii) Floriculture Products	75

(e) Some of the steps taken to promote the export of fruits, vegetables and floriculture products include :

- (i) Providing financial assistance to exporters/ growers/producers/cooperative organisations for development of infrastructural facilities such as purchase of specialised transport units, establishment of pre-cooling/cold storage facilities;
- (ii) Providing soft loans for setting up of grading/ processing centres, auction platforms, ripening/curing chambers and quality testing equipment;
- (iii) Grant of financial assistance for improved packaging and strengthening of quality control;
- (iv) Establishment of walk-in-type cold storages for export consignments awaiting clearance;
- (v) Setting up of integrated cargo handling facilities for perishable products at New Delhi Airport;
- (vi) Arranging promotional campaigns, buyer-seller meets and participation in international fairs/exhibitions;
- (vii) Implementation of UNDP Project on Floriculture for improving productivity and production;
- (viii) Grant of air freight subsidy for selected floricultural, horticultural products and fresh vegetables.

Shortage of Deposit Receipts in SBI, Kanpur

3223. SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is a acute shortage of deposit receipts of daily Income Scheme of State Bank of India in U.P. particularly in Kanpur;

(b) if so, whether the depositors have to part with the money without the receipts;

(c) if so, the date since when these receipts are not available there;

(d) the estimated loss incurred by the Bank on account of lack of these deposit receipts; and

(e) the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) State Bank of India have reported that the deposit receipts in respect of Janata Deposit Scheme are available in sufficient quantity at their branches in U.P. particularly in Kanpur. Availability of such receipts in future has also been ensured.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.