

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:296
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2000
EXPORT OF FRUITS/VEGETABLES
RATTAN LAL KATARIA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the demand for Indian fruits and vegetables is fast increasing in foreign countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any ban/restriction on the export of some items of fruits/vegetables;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government are contemplating to lift the ban/restriction from those items;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) the steps taken /being taken to increase the export of fruits and vegetables?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (G) ØDK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.296 FOR ANSWER ON 11.8.2000 REGARDING EXPORT OF FRUITS/VEGETABLES.

(a) & (b) There is a large demand for fruits and vegetables in the major international market and the Indian fruit and vegetables are making a modest entry at an average of 0.5 million tonnes of fruit and vegetables per annum.

(c) to (f) There is no ban on export of fruits and vegetables from India except in the case of export of onions which is canalised. Export of onion is canalised and regulated by periodical release of quantities for export based on harvest/market arrivals and flush and lean season availability. The Government has recently approved a long-term policy for export of onions. Under the long-term policy, quotas for export of onions for the next crop year would be announced in advance. The Government has removed restrictions on export of Bangalore Rose and Krishnapuram Onions with effect from 26th April 2000.

(g) The steps taken/being taken to increase production and export of horticulture products such as fruits and vegetables during the Ninth Plan include:

(i) Providing assistance for raising small and large nurseries for production of good quality planting material, upgradation of technical knowhow of farmers through demonstrations, trainings and publicity, rejuvenation of old orchards, area expansion, supply of minikits for vegetables, improving productivity and training of farmers under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Integrated Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid Zone fruits;

(ii) grant of financial assistance for improved packaging, and strengthening of quality control including installation of latest ISO 9000/HACCP equipments at export units;

(iii) grant of air freight subsidy for export of select fresh vegetables and fresh fruits ;

(iv) establishment of vapour heat treatment facilities for improving the acceptability of the product especially mangoes in overseas markets;

(v) arranging promotional campaigns such as buyer-seller meets and participation in important international fairs and exhibitions;

(vi) setting up of integrated cargo handling and cold storage facilities at various International Airports for handling export of perishable items such as fresh fruits and vegetables; and

(vi) providing technical advisory services and other support services to trade and industry including training of farmers for export production, quality control, packaging, transport, etc.