

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:523

ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008

EXPORT AND IMPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Jogi Shri Ajit;Nayak Shri Ananta;Panda Shri Prabodh;Rao Shri Errabelli Dayakar;Sarma Dr. Arun Kumar;Singh Shri Mohan

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

- (a) the quantity and value of agricultural products imported and exported during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise, State-wise and item-wise;
- (b) the details of the agricultural products and machinery which can be imported/exported freely after paying some duty separately;
- (c) the policy of the Government with regard to export and import of agricultural products including rice alongwith its effect on exports;
- (d) whether the Government has decided to restrict or ban the export of some agricultural products including Joha rice;
- (e) if so, the details and reasons therefor, item-wise, country-wise;
- (f) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Exports Development Authority (APEDA) for enlisting `Joha` rice as a new variety of export quality rice; and
- (g) if so, the details alongwith the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of agricultural products?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

a) The quantity and value of agricultural products imported and exported during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise, and item-wise is available at the websites [www.commerce.gov.in](http://www.commerce.gov.in), [www.dgciskol.nic.in](http://www.dgciskol.nic.in) and [www.apeda.com](http://www.apeda.com). No state-wise details of exports and imports of agricultural products is available.

b) to e) All agricultural products are open under Open General License (OGL) regulated under Foreign Trade Policy 2004-09. However, from time to time government puts restrictions on the import & export of agricultural products to maintain availability in the domestic market. Joha Rice is Non-Basmati rice and export of Non-Basmati rice other then PUSA 1121 variety, is prohibited.

The current status of import & Export policy of the Major food items is as given below:

Sl.No.	Item	Import Policy	Export Policy
--------	------	---------------	---------------

- |    |                                  |  |  |
|----|----------------------------------|--|--|
| 1. | Wheat and wheat products         | Free   | Prohibited   |
| 2. | Rice                             | Canalised through Food Corporation of India (FCI) except PUSA 1121 variety, prohibiter | Export of Non-basmati rice   |
| 3. | Maize                            | Canalised through Food Corporation of India (FCI)                                      | Free   |
| 4. | Pulses                           | Free   | Prohibited till 31.03.2009 except Kabali Chana   |
| 5. | Edible Oils (Except Coconut Oil) | Free   | Prohibited except the following:<br>i) Export of Castor Oil<br>ii) Export of Coconut Oil through Kochi Port<br>iii) Deemed export of edible oils to 100% Export Oriented Units with the condition that final products be non-edible.<br>iv) Export of edible oil produced out of minor forest produce such as fixed vegetable oils viz. Morwah oil/ dat/ kokumoil/ fat sal oil/ sal fat/ stearine, dhup oil, neemseed oil, nigerseed oil, mango kernel |

oil/ fat / olein/ steraine, sal  
fat, shellac wax.

v) Export of edible oil from  
Domestic Traiff Area (DTA) to  
Special Economic Zones (SEZ)  
to be consumed by the SEZ units  
for manufacture of processed  
food products.

6. Coconut Oil Canalised through Food -  
Corporation of India (FCI)
- 7 Sugar Free Free, however, export to EU and  
USA are subject to Preferntial  
Quota released by EU and USA  
through Directorate of Sugar/  
Indian Sugar Exim Corporation  
Ltd.

f) Yes, Sir,

g) Encouraging export is a continuous process. The Government is taking steps to encourage export of agro products through measures and incentives under Plan schemes of the Commodity Boards and Export Promotion Councils. Further, in order to boost export of Indian products, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry has put in place various schemes namely Market Development Assistance (MDA), Market Assistance Initiative(MAI), Assistance to States for Developing Export Infrastructure and Allied Activities(ASIDE), Vishesh Krishi and Gram Upaj Yojana, Focus Product Scheme, Focus Market Scheme, Town of Export Excellence, etc. Trade delegations are sent abroad and Buyer-Seller meets are organized in this direction. Besides, the government is operating following schemes to boost the export of agricultural products.

1. Scheme for Infrastructure Development
2. Scheme for Quality Development
3. Scheme for Market Development
4. Scheme for Research & Development and
5. Scheme for Transport Assistance