

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:141

ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011

INDIA S SHARE IN AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS

Viswanathan Shri P.;Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao

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

- (a) the details of India's share in the global export trade in agricultural products;
- (b) whether the total volume of farm exports is still very low;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the quantum of items exported during the last three years; and
- (d) the steps taken to boost farm exports without compromising with the domestic demand?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

a) to d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.141 FOR ANSWER ON 7TH MARCH 2011 REGARDING "INDIA'S SHARE IN AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS"

(a to c) As per United Nations Commodity Trade Statistics Database (UNCOMTRADE) 2009/WTO 2009, the global agricultural trade was USD 1802 billion, out of which India's share was 1.55% at USD 28.00 billion. The relatively small share is primarily on account of low productivity, large domestic consumption, constraints of supply chain and marketing linkages and lack of warehousing facilities and post harvest technology for processing. Moreover, the essential commodities including foodgrains are allowed to be exported only after meeting the buffer stock and strategic reserve norms. Details of exports are given at Annexure -I.

(d) Encouraging exports is a continuous process. The Government is taking steps to encourage exports of agriculture products through various 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 regularly sent abroad and Buyer-Seller meets are organized towards this end. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), under the administrative control of the Department of Commerce is also implementing various Schemes to extend financial assistance to the eligible exporters registered with it to boost overall Agri exports. The Government keeps a close and constant watch on the availability of agricultural products at reasonable price in domestic market and imposes restrictions on their exports as and when required.