

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4865  
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2012  
EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS  
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**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether India`s share in global agricultural trade is only 1.55 per cent;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the reasons for low level Indian agricultural trade in global trade;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to increase India`s share in global agricultural trade alongwith the success achieved thereto; and
- (e) the cost and quantum of agricultural products exported and imported during each of the last three years, Country-wise and value-wise?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) As per UNCOMTRADE data for 2010, India's share in global agriculture trade is 1.48%.

(b&c) India's share in world agricultural trade is relatively low. The small share is primarily on account of low land holding size, low productivity, large domestic consumption, constraints of supply chain and marketing linkages as well as low level of processing. Moreover, the essential commodities including foodgrains are allowed to be exported only after meeting the buffer stock and strategic reserve norms.

(d) 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 Udyog Yojana (VKGUY), 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.

As per UNCOMTRADE, India's agriculture export trade has increased from USD 15.40 billion in the year 2008 to USD 16.26 billion in 2010.

(e) The details of agricultural products exported and imported during each of the last three years, country-wise and value-wise are at Annexure -A.