

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2971

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2015

EXPORT IMPORT OF FOODGRAINS AND AGRICULTURAL FARM PRODUCTS

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

- (a) the quantum and value of export and import of foodgrains and other agricultural/ farm products along with rates thereof vis-a-vis target fixed during each of the last three years and the current year, commodity/item and country- wise;
- (b) whether any target has been fixed in regard to quality and rate of such products and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the share of India in world trade of foodgrains and agricultural/farm products along with the share of various States/UTs therein;
- (d) whether India's share in export of foodgrains and agricultural/farm products is not significant and is very low in comparison with other products;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with contribution of agricultural sector in country's total export; and
- (f) the measures taken by the Government to enhance export of such products so as to achieve the target fixed in this regard along with the role and works done by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) in trade promotion, research/studies to improve quality and productivity enhancement and creation of infrastructure and other facilities for the purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) The country wise data of top 5 destinations on quantum and value of export and import of major agricultural products, along with average rates for the last three years and the current year, may be seen at Annexure-I and Annexure-II respectively.
- (b) Rates for export/import are market determined and are not decided by the Government except in some very exceptional cases where a minimum export price (MEP) is set up by the Government. As for quality, the exporters have to comply with the quality standards of the exporting and importing countries
- (c) As per World Trade Organisation (WTO) International Trade Statistics 2014 (based on trade in 2013), India's share in world exports and imports of agricultural products was 2.7% and 1.3% respectively. State/UT wise data is not maintained centrally.
- (d) & (e) As per WTO International Trade Statistics 2014, India ranks 6th among the leading exporters of agricultural products. Details of contribution of Agri & Allied Products in country's total exports, during the last three years and the current year, are as under: -

Year	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Share of	9.21%	10.87%	10.45%	9.66%
Agri & Allied Products in India's total exports				
Provisional				

Source: DGCI&S

Keeping in view the fact that India has a large domestic consumption base for agricultural products, India's share in the world export as well as the share of agricultural exports in country's total exports cannot be termed as insignificant.

(f) Encouraging exports of agricultural products is a continuous process. The Government is taking steps to encourage exports of agro products through measures and incentives under Plan schemes of the Commodity Boards and Export Promotion Councils. Besides these measures, 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. to provide assistance to encourage exports. The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is mandated with the responsibility of export promotion and development of 14 scheduled products. APEDA participates in 10-12 international trade fairs every year to promote the export of agro products from India. APEDA also works with the regulatory bodies in the importing countries to negotiate and achieve market access for Indian agro products. To enhance the capabilities of the exporters, APEDA extends financial assistance for market, quality and infrastructure development to registered members under the plan scheme "Agriculture Export Promotion Scheme".