

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7104
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2015
EXPORT IMPORT OF ONION
Bohara Shri Ramcharan

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

- (a) the quantum and value of export and import of onion during each of the last three years, country-wise;
- (b) the country's share in world's trade of onion along with the share of various States therein;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note of the impact of onion export on its price in the domestic market;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to review the EXIM policy for onion and if so, the details thereof along with the other measures taken by the Government to boost its export as well as to check its availability and rising price in the domestic market?

Answer

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

- (a) The quantum and value of onion exported as well as imported during each of the last three years, country-wise (top 5 destinations) are given below.

Export:

COUNTRY	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15 (Apr-Feb)	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
BANGLADESH	490127	437.7256	4093	896.3905	434305	738.53
	77.7	.5				
MALAYSIA	3352	491.0963	2405	639.3461	1891	359.5396
	66.9	70.6	63.4			
U ARAB EMTS	2118	238.4631	1723	330.0831	1107	204.8961
	31.9	54.8	11.5			
SRI LANKA	1493	204.9195	1767	392.486	1088	213.3826
	94.3	65.7	01.5			
NEPAL	17421	39.59628	21878	66.63564	60016	119.4539
	.98	.45	.99			
OTHERS	4153	558.3678	3870	872.5015	2070	403.5128
	29.4	08.8	25.7			
GRAND TOTAL	1619371	1970.168	1407956	3197.443	1110025	2039.315

Source: DGCI&S

IMPORT:

COUNTRY	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15 (Apr-Feb)	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
EGYPT A RP	-	-	314	1.06	576	1.243
AFGHANISTAN	-	-	15492	25.92	237	0.299
BANGLADESH	450	0.303	-	-	-	-
CHINA P RP	-	-	1604	5.18	-	-
IRAN	-	-	178	0.30	-	1.542
OTHERS	-	-	258	0.95	-	-
GRAND TOTAL	450	0.303	17847	33.41	813	1.542

Source: DGCI&S

- (b) India's share in world trade of onion as per UN Comtrade data for 2013 is 16.80%. State wise share of onion in World trade is not maintained.

- (c to e) Prices of any agricultural products depends on various factors like food inflation, Minimum Support Price, overall inflation in economy and domestic and international demand and supply situation, global stock position, quality standards in the importing

countries, varieties traded and price competitiveness etc. There is an Inter-Ministerial Committee which takes stock of the arrival of onion and modal prices prevailing in the important production and consumption centres. The Committee takes appropriate decision to calibrate export through Minimum Export Price (MEP) on onion from time to time after considering various factors like availability of onion in domestic market, remunerative prices to the growers and availability of agricultural products to common man at affordable prices.

To promote exports, the Government has recently launched a new scheme namely "Merchandize Exports from India (MEIS)" under Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20, wherein the exporters/farmers are incentivized for export of their goods/products to a specified markets including onion. As far as the domestic market is concerned, the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has approved the Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) as a Central Sector Scheme, with a corpus of Rs.500 crores, to support market interventions for price control of perishable agri-horticultural commodities during 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17.