

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2171
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2014
EXPORT OF PERISHABLE COMMODITIES
Dubey Shri Nishikant

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

- (a) the quantum and value of the perishable commodities exported and imported during each of the last three years and the current year, country and commodity-wise;
- (b) the details of commodities whose export/import has been banned by the Government during the said period along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to lift the ban on the export of some of these commodities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote the export of such items particularly processed foods? ANSWER

Answer

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

(a) The quantum and value of the perishable commodities exported and imported during each of the last three years and the current year, commodity wise and country wise are given at Annexure – I and Annexure – II respectively.

(b to d) The Government has not banned export of any perishable commodities during the past three years. Export of Milk products (SMP, WMP, Dairy whitener and infant milk foods, casein and casein products) were banned w.e.f. 18.02.2011. However, the ban has since been lifted. Among other agricultural commodities, ban on export of pulses (except kabuli chana) has been continued. The ban on export of edible oil has also continued during the last 3 years with certain exemptions. The Government's policy on export and import of agriculture produce depends upon various factors including stocks of agriculture products available in the country, surplus over and above the buffer stock norm and strategic reserve requirements, if any, the concerns of food security, availability of agriculture products to common man at reasonable prices and remunerative returns to the grower and price competitiveness in the international market etc. No ban has been placed on import of any perishable commodity during the last three years. However, the ban on import of milk and milk products from China which was imposed in 2008, has been extended till 23rd June, 2015.

(e) Export promotion of agricultural products is a continuous process. The Government is taking steps to encourage exports of agriculture products, including processed foods through various measures and incentives under Plan schemes of the Commodity Boards and Export Promotion Councils. The Government has also decided to allow the unrestricted export of 14 product groups of processed and/or value added agricultural products even in the event of restriction/ ban on the export of basic farm produce.