

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *59
ANSWERED ON 29.11.2024

EXPORTS OF BASMATI RICE FROM PUNJAB

*59. SHRI SANJEEV ARORA:

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

- (a) the total volume of basmati rice exported from Punjab in the last three years, with data on key export destinations and value-added rice products;
- (b) Government's efforts to protect the Geographical Indication (GI) status of basmati rice and its impact on the global market share of Punjab's rice exports; and
- (c) the manner in which Government is assisting Punjab's Basmati rice farmers and exporters in overcoming challenges such as global price fluctuations, trade barriers, and quality standards?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 59 FOR ANSWER ON 29th NOVEMBER, 2024 REGARDING “EXPORT OF BASMATI RICE FROM PUNJAB”.

(a) (i) The designated GI areas of Basmati Rice in India are the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh(30 districts), Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir (two districts in Jammu) & the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(ii) The government maintains record of total basmati rice exports from India. The top ten export destinations of Basmati Rice from India, including that from Punjab, are as under:

Export of Basmati Rice from India

| | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Key Destinations | US\$ Mill | | | Qty in MT's | | |
| Saudi Arabia | 646 | 1037 | 1253 | 674851 | 954484 | 1098042 |
| Iraq | 400 | 375 | 886 | 486296 | 364064 | 824527 |
| Iran | 818 | 980 | 680 | 998045 | 998879 | 670782 |
| Yemen | 184 | 308 | 342 | 205948 | 289605 | 307117 |
| UAE | 221 | 335 | 333 | 257258 | 315313 | 308656 |
| U S A | 184 | 239 | 305 | 161005 | 204026 | 234469 |
| U K | 119 | 137 | 219 | 131322 | 142618 | 185544 |
| Kuwait | 129 | 159 | 202 | 147485 | 156440 | 179583 |
| Oman | 73 | 125 | 181 | 77469 | 112063 | 164351 |
| Qatar | 64 | 93 | 124 | 71724 | 92061 | 115404 |
| Others | 701 | 1000 | 1311 | 736757 | 929419 | 1153573 |
| Total | 3540 | 4787 | 5837 | 3948161 | 4558972 | 5242048 |

Source: DGCIS

(iii) The value added products of rice are a part of the larger export basket comprising of cereal preparations and milled products which also contains other value added cereal based products. The exports of cereal preparations and milled products including that from rice from India (including from Punjab) is as under:

| India's Export of Cereal Preparations and Milled products | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | USD Million | | | Qty in MT | | |
| | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 |
| Total | 655.22 | 757.34 | 852.40 | 419492.76 | 486975.98 | 547620.70 |

(b) (i) The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), a Statutory Body under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India is mandated for the registration and protection of Intellectual Property Rights, in respect of Basmati Rice in India or outside India.

(ii) The GI for Basmati Rice in India was obtained by APEDA with effect from 26th November 2008. APEDA has been taking various legal steps worldwide to protect the Geographical Indication (GI) status of Basmati rice in India and the world.

(iii) APEDA has successfully obtained GI for Basmati Rice in 20 Countries and obtained Certification marks in 9 Countries. Proceedings related to registration of GI/Certification are underway in 34 Countries.

(iv) Legal notices and actions before IP offices and courts are underway to prevent infringing marks from obtaining registration and to prevent unauthorised use of the name and logo Basmati. Till date more than 1200 instances of attempted registrations of infringing trademarks in 50 countries across all continents have been prevented for Basmati Rice.

(v) These initiatives have helped strengthen the position of Basmati rice in global markets including that from Punjab. After registration of Basmati Rice as GI in 2008, the exports of Basmati Rice including from the state of Punjab have increased from 106 countries to 150 countries in 2023-24. Furthermore, the total exports of Basmati rice have also increased from 2.01 Million MTs (USD 2.297 Billion) in 2009-10 to 5.24 Million MTs (USD 5.83 Billion) in 2023-24.

(c) The Government through APEDA & Indian Council of Agricultural Research has taken following major steps for assisting all Basmati rice farmers and exporters including those from Punjab in overcoming challenges such as global price fluctuations, trade barriers, and quality standards:

(i) Financial assistance is provided to the exporters of APEDA's Scheduled products, including Basmati Rice exporters of Punjab under APEDA's financial Assistance scheme.

(ii) Facilitate and support the participation of Basmati rice exporters, in key International Trade Fairs such as GULFOOD Dubai, SIAL Paris, ANUGA Germany, etc.

(iii) Global campaign for promotion of Basmati Rice to broaden and deepen its market across the Globe.

(iv) Continuous efforts towards resolution of trade barriers imposed through quality standards by importing countries at various forums including WTO and at the bilateral level.

(v) For quality assurance and authentication of Basmati Rice, a modern laboratory has been set up by Basmati Export Development Foundation (BEDF) under APEDA for DNA profiling, pesticides residue testing and quality testing on the basis of physical parameters.

(vi) Capacity building of farmers and exporters through workshops, seminars & trainings in association with State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and ICAR institutes.

(vii) ICAR has developed improved varieties of Basmati Rice to enhance yields and ensure better resistance of Basmati Rice to diseases.
