

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-700**  
ANSWERED ON- 25/07/2025

**TARGETS FOR COMBINED PRODUCT EXPORTS**

700. SHRI IRANNA KADADI

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

- a. Whether Government has set a target of \$100 billion for combined product exports in Food and Beverage (F&B), agriculture and marine industries over next five years, if so, the details thereof;
- b. measures that are being implemented to support domestic companies in achieving this export target, particularly in terms of innovation and sustainability;
- c. manner in which Government plans to facilitate 100 per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in F&B sector;
- d. whether there are plans to expand food testing laboratories across nation to improve product quality; and
- e. manner in which these initiatives are expected to contribute to the country's food security programs?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) & (b) The Government is working towards increasing the exports of Food and Beverage (F&B), agriculture and marine industries. The overall exports of these products in 2024-25 was US\$ 51.9 billion. The Department of Commerce takes various initiatives to support the exports of Food and Beverage (F&B), agriculture and marine industries through Agriculture and Processed Food Products Exports Development Authority (APEDA) and the Marine Products Exports Development Authority (MPEDA). These initiatives include the development of modern infrastructure, adoption of innovative and automated machinery, encouragement to new value-added product development, quality and market development. The agencies also organise training programs to upskill FPOs/FPCs/ SHGs/exporters including linkage of the farmer groups to export supply chain, to expand India's reach in global markets.

(c) In Food and Beverage Sector, Foreign investment in 'manufacturing' is allowed under the automatic route, subject to the other provisions of the FDI policy. Also, 100% FDI under the Government approval route is allowed for retail trading including through e-commerce, in

respect of food products manufactured and/or produced in India. Further, in order to enhance the foreign investment in Food Processing Sector, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has exempted all the processed food items from the purview of licensing under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

(d) & (e) The Government is taking various initiatives to improve product quality through the expansion of the food testing laboratory network across the country. Presently, 114 food testing labs located in 18 states are recognized by APEDA having the scope for analysis of various agricultural products. The Export Inspection Council (EIC) also has 81 recognized laboratories across the country for food testing specifically for exports. Further, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has notified 244 NABL accredited food testing laboratories for the testing of food samples across the country. In addition, 22 Referral Food Laboratories have also been notified for the analysis of appellate samples. All these Initiatives related to food testing, food safety, and hygiene contribute to food security by guaranteeing that the food available is safe, nutritious, and free from contaminants.

\*\*\*\*\*