

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2246
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19/12/2025

POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR EXPORT AND IMPORT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES

2246. SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI:
SHRI MEDA RAGHUNADHA REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to formulate a comprehensive policy on the export and import of agricultural commodities to ensure stability and predictability for farmers and traders;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government plans to introduce a compensatory mechanism for farmers adversely impacted by sudden export bans, particularly in the case of onions, rice and other essential crops;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government intends to establish mechanisms to link farmers to global markets to enhance their income; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (d): The Government maintains continuous oversight over the country's import and export activities and revises trade policies as necessary to safeguard domestic interests. For essential agricultural commodities, there is an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) including Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare as a member, which keeps a close and regular watch on essential agricultural commodities, analyzing factors that affect their availability and market conditions. It also monitors any rise in imports to quickly identify trends that may influence domestic production, trade, or food security. To protect the interests of farmers and reduce unnecessary imports, the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) reviews the import of agricultural commodities and, when required, recommends measures such as import duties or port restrictions to the concerned

Ministry/Department. Further, Government supports farmers through several ongoing schemes and interventions, including:

- Market intervention through procurement under Minimum Support Price (MSP) mechanism for notified crops;
- Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF) operations for essential commodities such as onions to manage volatility;
- Market intelligence and buffer stocking operations by Central agencies; and
- Input and income support schemes, such as PM-KISAN, to cushion income fluctuations.

These measures collectively aim to mitigate adverse impacts on farmers arising from market disruptions.

(e) & (f): Department of Commerce through the Agricultural and Processed food products Export Development Authority (APEDA) provides financial assistance to its member exporters including, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs) from across the country under financial Assistance Scheme (FAS).

Specifically with respect to linking farmers to global markets, APEDA provides financial assistance for implementation and certification of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) through its registered exporters to enable them to meet the requirements of the importing countries with respect to the quality standards designated by them.

In addition to this, around 1080 of capacity building/training programs have been carried out during 2025-26, across India, in association with the concerned State government agencies, with a specific focus for exporters including FPOs/FPCs/SHGs in order to provide linkage of the farmer groups to export supply chain and to promote the entrepreneurs for becoming prospective exporters.

Finally, APEDA organized participation of its member exporters including FPO's and FPC's in major international food exhibitions and buyer seller meets held abroad and in India like World Food India, Indus Food, AAHAR in India and Gulf Food etc.
