

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 186
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

AGRICULTURE EXPORT POLICY

186. SHRI T.R. BAALU:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government subscribes to the view that the solution to the economic distress of Indian farmers is through a stable and predictable Agriculture Export Policy which aims at reinvigorating the entire value chain from export-oriented farm production and processing to transportation, infrastructure and global market access;
- (b) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ramp up exports in the agricultural sector and thus enable farmers for the global market; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

- (a): The Government is aware of the importance of agriculture exports for improving incomes of the Indian farmers and hence had introduced a comprehensive Agriculture Export Policy in 2018. Objectives of the Agriculture Export Policy are as under:
- I. To diversify our export basket, destinations and boost high-value and value-added agricultural exports including focus on perishables.
 - II. To promote novel, indigenous, organic, ethnic, traditional and non-traditional agri products exports.
 - III. To provide an institutional mechanism for pursuing market access, tackling barriers and deal with sanitary and phytosanitary issues.
 - IV. To strive to double India's share in world agri exports by integrating with global value chain at the earliest.
 - V. Enable farmers to get benefit of export opportunities in overseas market

(b): Promotion of exports of agriculture products is a continuous process. The Government has taken several steps at State/ District levels to promote exports. State specific Action Plans have been prepared and State Level Monitoring Committees (SLMCs), Nodal Agencies for agricultural exports and Cluster Level Committees have been formed in a number of States. Country and product-specific action plans have also been formulated to promote exports. It has also been decided that the District as Export Hub Initiative of the Department of Commerce would be utilized to achieve the objectives of Agriculture Export Policy.

A Farmer Connect Portal has been developed for providing a platform for farmers, Farmer-Producer Organizations (FPOs) and cooperatives to interact with exporters. Buyer-Seller Meets (BSMs) have been organized in the clusters to provide export-market linkages. Regular interactions, through video conferences, have been held with the Indian Missions abroad, to assess and tap export opportunities. Country specific BSMs, through Indian Missions, have also been organized.

The Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), an autonomous organisation under the administrative control of Department of Commerce, has the mandate to promote exports of agricultural and processed food products. APEDA has been providing assistance to the exporters under various components of its Export Promotion Scheme.

The Department of Commerce provides financial assistance to promote exports, including exports of agricultural products through Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme, Export Promotion Schemes of APEDA and Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) etc.

(c): Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.
