

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2822
ANSWERED ON 18/03/2025

EXPORT OF FRUITS TO AUSTRALIA

2822. SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN:
SHRI RAJKUMAR CHAHAR:
SHRI BIBHU PRASAD TARAI

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

- (a) the measures being taken to expand exports of fresh fruits to Australia and other new markets;
- (b) whether there is any scheme for providing specific benefits to Indian farmers from this trade achievement along with any plan for giving additional support to them;
- (c) the initiatives being adopted to ensure that Indian agricultural exports could meet global phytosanitary and quality standards; and
- (d) the new strategies being formulated by the Government to enhance cost efficiency of sea shipment of perishable agricultural products?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जितिन प्रसाद)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) & (b) The Department of Commerce through the Agricultural and Processed food products Export Development Authority (APEDA) provides financial assistance to its member exporters, including those exporting to Australia, for export promotion of its Scheduled products, including fruits, through its Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS). The scheme has the following components:

- i. Development of Export Infrastructure
- ii. Quality Development
- iii. Market Development

The details of financial assistance guidelines are available at APEDA's website www.apeda.gov.in under the "Scheme" tab.

In addition to above, APEDA works in close collaboration with the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) for obtaining market access for fresh fruits in new markets, including in Australia. As a result, India has achieved market access for (i) Indian Potatoes and Onions in Serbia; (ii) Baby corn and fresh banana in Canada; (iii) Pomegranate arils in Australia, USA, Serbia, and New Zealand; (iv) Whole pomegranates in Australia via Irradiation treatment.

Further, as trade expands, farmers benefit from increased market opportunities, leading to higher demand and better prices for their produce. Additionally, the Government of India through Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), which is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for providing support to the farmers for the holistic growth of the horticulture sector including fruits.

(c) To ensure that Indian agricultural exports can meet global phytosanitary and quality standards, the initiatives such as Sensitization/Capacity Building/Training programmes for farmers on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), development of Traceability System, farm registration, registration and recognition of packhouses, development and implementation of residue management plan, as per importing country requirements, are being taken by APEDA in close coordination with stakeholders like Directorate of Plant protection, Quarantine and Storage (DPPQ&S) , Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (MoA&FW) and the State Governments.

(d) The Government is focusing on development of the sea protocols for perishable products like fruits, which will enable export of higher volumes to long distance markets, including Australia, at more competitive prices. APEDA, in collaboration with Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) under the Department of Agriculture Research and Education (DARE), has developed sea protocols for exports of Pomegranate and Banana and protocols are being developed for Mango, Pineapple, Ginger and Orange.
