

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1516
ANSWERED ON 29.07.2025

BOOSTING BANANAS EXPORT

1516: SHRI SELVAM G:
SHRI C N ANNADURAI:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state :-

- (a) Whether the Government is providing assistance to State Governments, particularly Tamil Nadu, for promoting and boosting the export of bananas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the schemes, capacity building programmes, infrastructure support or export subsidies provided during the last three years;
- (c) the quantity of bananas exported from India along with corresponding foreign exchange earned during each of the last three years and the current year, year-wise;
- (d) the key challenges faced in enhancing the export of bananas from India, particularly from Tamil Nadu;
- (e) whether Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has initiated any specific steps to promote banana exports from Tamil Nadu;
- (f) if so, the details thereof of cluster development, export-oriented training and buyer-seller meets organized; and
- (g) whether any financial assistance or incentives are being provided to banana growers and exporters to support banana exports from Tamil Nadu, if so, the details thereof?

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) to (g) The Department of Commerce through the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) provides financial support to exporters from across the country, including from Tamil Nadu, for export promotion of its Scheduled products, including bananas, through its Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS). The

scheme has three components viz., Development of Export Infrastructure, Quality Development and Market Development. The scheme guidelines are available at APEDA's website www.apeda.gov.in under the "Scheme" tab.

The following specific steps have been taken for promotion of exports of Bananas from Tamil Nadu:

- i. Financial support of Rs. 94,21,637/- extended to a APEDA registered exporter, for setting up of an Integrated Packhouse in Tamil Nadu, for the processing of horticulture produce including bananas.
- ii. Assistance extended for the trial shipment of Red bananas from Tamil Nadu to Austria in the year 2022.
- iii. GI tagged Virupakshi & Sirumalai bananas were exhibited in Qatar by the Embassy of India, Doha, in 2023.
- iv. Promotion by display and sampling of Indian Bananas, including from Tamil Nadu, was carried out in key international trade fairs like SIAL Paris, World Food Moscow, Asia Fruit Logistica, Hong Kong. An electronic campaign for promotion and branding of Indian fruits including bananas is being organized in key international trade fairs, in collaboration with the India Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF).
- v. A Buyer Seller Meet and promotional event to explore opportunities for Indian Bananas was organized in Moscow.
- vi. Ten packhouses have been recognized in Tamil Nadu under APEDA's pack house recognition scheme to ensure quality of produce for export of fruits including banana.
- vii. A National level workshop on GI & Traditional banana varieties, conducted in Trichy, in 2022, in association with National Research Centre for Banana (NRCB), Trichy.
- viii. During 2024-25, 16 training and capacity building programs have been carried out in Tamil Nadu exclusively for bananas, wherein 2900 stakeholders participated.
- ix. Farmer training programs on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for bananas conducted in Theni and Trichy clusters in 2024 & 2025 respectively.

The key issues and challenges faced in enhancing the export of bananas from India, particularly from Tamil Nadu, are smaller size of Indian Banana varieties in general, than the globally popular varieties which are larger sized, long transit time due to geographic distance to key developed markets like the EU & Russia which makes it difficult to maintain quality, adherence to quality requirements at small farms and stringent Phyto-sanitary requirements imposed by key markets like the EU.

These issues and challenges are being resolved through development of sea protocols for Bananas, sensitization of stakeholders to promote production of globally accepted cavendish variety of Bananas, training and capacity building of farmers in quality requirements and adoption of Good Agricultural practices.

With respect to specific export subsidies for exporters on achieving trade milestones, all members of the World Trade Organization, including India are committed to not providing

any export subsidies to agricultural commodities after December 2023, including for bananas. This includes any subsidies for marketing and transportation of goods.

As a result of these efforts and active collaboration amongst all stakeholders, there has been a significant growth in exports of Bananas, which have grown 128.54% in terms of volume and 115.64% in terms of value, during the period 2022-23 to 2024-25.

The export data of bananas from India, during the last three years is as under.

India's Export of Bananas to the World						
Products	Value in USD Million			Qty in MT		
	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Bananas (including other bananas, Plantains, Fresh/chilled)	175.68	292.19	378.83	363135.13	598750.95	829903.93
Source: DGCIS						
