

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1153
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11th FEBRUARY, 2019

AGRICULTURAL EXPORT POLICY

1153. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN

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

- (a) whether the Government has approved the Agricultural Export Policy, 2018 and if so, the salient features of the policy;
- (b) whether the Government has assessed the impact of the Policy on the State of Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has emphasised the need for diversifying export basket in the country through the policy and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the amount of foodgrains and crops exported to various countries from the State of Maharashtra during each of the last five years, year-wise and crop/foodgrain-wise?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) Yes, Madam. The Government has introduced a comprehensive Agriculture Export Policy with the following vision:

“Harness export potential of Indian agriculture, through suitable policy instruments, to make India a global power in agriculture, and raise farmers’ income.”

Inter-alia, the 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 dealing with sanitary and phytosanitary issues.
- (iv) To strive to double India’s share in world agri exports by integrating with global value chains.
- (v) Enable farmers to get benefit of export opportunities in overseas market.

The envisaged initiatives in the Agriculture Export Policy have been organised in two categories – Strategic and Operational – as detailed below:

Strategic	Policy measures
	Infrastructure and logistics support
	Holistic approach to boost exports
	Greater involvement of State Governments in agri exports

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Operational	Focus on Clusters
	Promoting value added exports
	Marketing and promotion of “Brand India”
	Attract private investments into production and processing
	Establishment of strong quality regimen
	Research & Development
	Miscellaneous

- (b) No assessment of impact of the Policy on the individual States has been made. However, a number of clusters have been identified in various States for export-oriented production of agricultural products. The clusters identified in the State of Maharashtra are as under:

Product	Districts
Banana	Jalgaon, Kolhapur, Solapur
Pomegranate	Solapur, Ahmednagar, Pune
Mango	Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg
Grapes	Pune, Nasik, Sangli
Onion	Nasik
Orange	Nagpur, Amravati, Wardha

- (c) Yes, Madam. One of the objectives of the Agriculture Export Policy is - “to diversify our export basket, destinations and boost high value and value added agricultural exports, including focus on perishables.”

India has remained at the lower end of the global agri export value chain given that majority of its exports are low value, raw or semi-processed and marketed in bulk. India is unable to export its vast horticultural produce due to lack of uniformity in quality, standardization and its inability to curtail losses across the value chain. Given the globalization of value chains, it is imperative that the country make concerted efforts to boost exports of high margin, value added and branded processed products. The Agriculture Export Policy envisages a paradigm shift from residual export after meeting domestic demand to targeted export according to preferences of overseas market.

- (d) The State-wise data on exports is not validated by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), as there is no scope for verifying the correctness of the state of origin code reported by the exporters.
