

माह	जन.	फरवरी	मार्च	अप्रैल	मई	जून	जुलाई	अगस्त	सितंबर	अक्तूबर
आलू	2215	4494	6109	400	75	284	एन./ए.	एन./ए.	एन/ए	एन/ए
प्याज	7267	3486	71221	69735	50420	40674	27881	15316	2539	537

आलू आयात के लिए प्रतिबंधित हैं। आलू का निर्यात अक्तूबर, 1998 से प्रतिबंध (ख) से (घ) आवश्यक वस्तुओं के संबंध में निर्यात और आयात नीतियां इन वस्तुओं की घरेलू उपलब्धता और कीमतों को ध्यान में रखते हुए समय-समय पर बनाई जाती हैं। इसलिए प्याज और आलू का निर्यात प्रतिबंधित कर दिया गया है। प्याज का आयात को मुक्त सूची में रखा गया है।

#### Target for Export Growth

29. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the target for export growth during 1998-99;

(b) how does the actual performance so far in the current fiscal year compare with the target; and

(c) what further steps are contemplated by Government to realise the export target?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEDGE): (a) and (b) The Ministry is aiming to achieve 20% growth in dollar terms in 1998-99. According to the provisional data received from DGCI&S during April-September, 1998-99, the exports registered a decline of 3.28% in \$ terms and a growth of 12.26% in rupee terms. Upto the period ending April-Aug., 1998-99 we have achieved about 35% of the targetted exports for 1998-99.

(c) Export promotion measures are continuously being taken by the Government through changes in policies and procedures for providing an export friendly environment, involvement of States in export promotion and consultation with trade and industry. A number of steps have been taken to promote exports which include lowering of interest rates on export credit, reduction in transaction cost through decentralisation and simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in the Exim Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through

स्रोत: डी जी सी आई एंड एस (एन/ए उपलब्ध नहीं)

multilateral and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sectors and focus regions. A Cabinet Committee on Foreign Trade has also been set up to review the export performance. The Government is according high priority to exports and all necessary steps are being taken to put exports on high growth trajectory.

#### Steps to boost export

30. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total in exports for 1998-99 till date for each sector;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a sharp decline in exports;

(c) the main causes of decline in exports; and

(d) what steps are being taken to revive exports and improve the balance of payment position of the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) As per the provisional Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S) data, exports of major items are as given below:

Items	US \$ Million		
	Apr.-Aug. 97-98	Apr.-Aug. 98-99	% Change
Plantations	369.41	452.50	22.49
Agricultural and Allied Products	1581.77	1565.20	-1.05
Marine Products	418.45	444.15	6.14
Ores & Minerals	442.33	310.88	-29.72
Leather and Manufactures	647.04	613.04	-5.25
Gems & Jewellery	1896.68	2199.29	15.95
Sports goods	35.53	31.35	11.76
Chemical and allied products	1737.74	1675.60	-3.58

Engineering goods	1729.30	1465.31	-15.27
Electronics goods	352.83	232.19	-34.19
Project goods	39.93	13.79	-65.46
Textiles	3560.01	3291.34	-7.55
Handicrafts	226.89	250.66	-10.47
Carpets	234.32	159.50	-31.93
Cotton raw	154.97	25.08	-83.81
Petroleum products	196.99	70.30	-64.31
Unclassified exports	146.78	799.77	444.87
Grand total	13770.98	13498.29	1.98

(c) The exports were affected due to a general slow down in world trade, recession in many countries in South East Asia, Japan and Germany, domestic supply constraints in some sectors such as agricultural commodities, and barriers faced in markets of European Union (EU).

(d) A number of steps have been taken to promote exports which include lowering of interest rates on export credit, reduction in transaction cost through decentralisation and simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in the Exim Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through multilateral and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sectors and focus regions. A Cabinet Committee on Foreign Trade has also been set up to review the export performance.

#### **Decline in Exports**

31. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that there has been considerable decline in India's exports to other countries;

(b) if so, the extent of decline during the last six months and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the balance of trade position as on date?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) As per the provisional data received from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), the exports during April-September, 1998-99 in

rupee terms and in US\$ terms are as given below:

Year	US\$ Million	% growth	Ruppee Crores	% growth
Apr-Sept. 97-98	-16821	4.22 -	60423	6.38
Apr. Sept. 98-99	16270	3.28	67834	12.26

The exports were affected due to a general slow down in world trade, recession in many countries in South East Asia, Japan and Germany, domestic supply constraints in some sectors such as agricultural commodities, and barriers faced in markets of European Union (EU).

(c) The trade deficit during April-September, 1998-99 was US \$ 4990.94 million and Rs. 20808.76 crores.

#### **Trade Talks with Pakistan**

32. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Secretary level talks were held with Pakistan in the second week of Nov., 1998 to boost trade between the two countries;

(b) if so, the details of the talks held; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The delegations of India and Pakistan exchanged ideas on issues affecting bilateral trade. A series of steps aimed at enhancing the scope of cooperation were discussed. The Indian delegation inter-alia pointed out that while India has already accorded Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to Pakistan since the 1970s, Pakistan is yet to grant similar status to India in accordance with its obligation under GATTWTO. The Pakistan delegation responded that they would fulfil their obligation in "due course". During the discussions, it was agreed that the technical teams on Railways and Power from India and Pakistan would meet for detailed discussions in these areas. Both sides agreed to have regular consultations on issues relating to social clause, environment etc. to have common approach.