

(c) and (d) Government has recently reviewed the erstwhile Crop Insurance Schemes including NCIP and introduced improved yield based Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and weather index based Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) from Kharif 2016 to provide financial support to farmers suffering crop loss/damage arising out of natural calamities/adverse weather conditions, to stabilize the income of farmers etc.

Export of sheep and goat and meat thereof

3374. DR.VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the livestock can be exported to other countries, if so, how many sheep and goats have been exported in this year, the criteria to be fulfilled by farmers to export livestock and whether Government has any scheme for farmers who wish to export livestock; and

(b) whether the meat of sheep and goat can be exported, the countries where this can be exported, the criteria to be fulfilled for the export of meat and the steps taken by Government to increase the export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir Livestock can be exported to other countries. As per the extant Export policy, export of livestock, in general, is freely allowed from the country. However, export of Live Horses (Kathiawari, Marwari and Manipuri breeds), live cattle (cows, oxen, bulls and calves), buffaloes and camel is restricted and export is permitted subject to license from Directorate General of Foreign Trade. The details of the livestock sheep and goats exported from the country during the year 2015-16 and 2016-17 (upto August, 2016) is given below:

Commodity Description	ITCHS Code	2015-16		2016-17 (up to Aug.-16)*	
		Qty. (No.)	Value (USD)	Qty. (No.)	Value (USD)
Live Sheep Excluding Those for Breeding Purpose	01041090	298499	25024282	27178999	6157146
Live Goats	01042000	747600	44937508	188609	11281985
GRAND TOTAL		1046099	69961790	27367608	17439131

*The 2016-17 data is provisional.

(b) Yes, Sir, Meat of sheep and goat can be exported to other countries. As per Sl. No. 22 and 23 of the Chapter 2 (Export policy), export of meat of Indian Sheep and Goat is free subject to condition that quality control and inspection prescribed under Note 3 and 4 respectively as well as conditions stipulated at Note 6 are fulfilled. The Agricultural Processed and Export Development Authority (APEDA), an autonomous organization under the Department of Commerce, provides financial assistance/subsidy to the exporters under the Agriculture Promotion Plan Scheme under components like Infrastructure Development, Market Development, Quality Development etc. to promote export of APEDA's scheduled products including sheep meat. Further, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has put in place schemes namely Market Development Assistance (MDA), Market Assistance Initiative (MAI) etc. to boost export of agricultural products which includes sheep meat.

Increase in MSP of pulses

3375. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to increase MSP of Rabi pulses;

(b) whether the MSP increase is limited to pulses only or is it applied to wheat also, the details thereof;

(c) the details of amount by which MSP is being raised; and

(d) the details of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (d) Government has increased the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of all rabi crops including wheat and pulses for 2016-17 season. In addition, to incentivize farmers for production of pulses, a bonus of ₹ 200 per quintal for Gram, ₹ 150 per quintal for Masur and ₹ 100 per quintal for oilseeds viz. Rapeseed/Mustard and Safflower has also been announced.

The MSPs of rabi crops recommended by CACP and fixed by Government for 2015-16 and 2016-17 are given in the Statement.